THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

VOL. CXX WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 1921 NUMBER 2372

ELEVATION OF STRAND FRONT, AS SCREENED BY CHURCH OF ST. MARY LE STRAND. SHOWING STUDIED RELATION OF STRAND TO CHURCH

The ARCHITECTURE of the BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

By HARVEY WILEY CORBETT, OF HELMLE & CORBETT, *Architects*

THE site of the Bush Buildings is in the geographical center of London. If you put your finger on what appears to be the center of a map of the City of London, you will touch this site. It is the last parcel to remain unbuilt of a section comprising many acres which were taken over some eighteen years ago by an act of Parliament. All the old shacks were destroyed, and cleared off, and new streets, Kingsway and Aldwych, running from High Holborn to the Strand, were built.

During the war the site was occupied by Y. M. C. A. huts known to every American soldier who passed through London by the name of "Eagle" huts. With the exception of the south side of the Strand and the little Church of St. Mary le Strand, which stands by itself in the middle of the street like a ship sailing up a river, all the architecture surrounding this building and on the whole length of Kingsway is modern, having been built within the past fifteen years.

The Strand front of the Bush Building has been particularly studied with an idea of serving as a frame to this little church, which is considered one of the architectural jewels of London.

The problem in the development of the site was to secure a location for the Bush International Sales Building and adjacent buildings to permit of the future development of the sales project. The new street of Kingsway, the finest business street in London, terminates at the center of this site, and therefore it was decided to place the International Sales Building as the terminus of this street, and have it stand free and unconnected, except by low arcades, with the adjacent Bush Buildings. This will make it the most striking feature of the whole of Kingsway, and the tower at its center will not only be viewed from the full length of Kingsway, but will occupy the unique position of being seen at least for half a mile to the east down Fleet street, and as far as Trafalgar Square along the Strand. There is probably not another site in the City of London where a point of architectural interest would form the vista of so many important streets.

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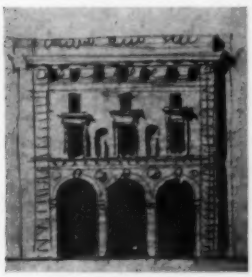
ANOTHER interesting thing about the site is that during the eighteen years in which it has been vacant a great many projects have been started for it, but never completed. The most important among these was one to make it a center of all British Colonial possessions. Many sets of plans have been prepared for these different schemes, and several first deposits on the property have been made and sacrificed, so that London has had its attention drawn to this particular spot throughout all these years, and the curiosity of the people to learn of its final disposition is intense. In this respect the buildings of the Bush Terminal Company as proposed have aroused more interest than would be true of any to be built upon any other site in the city. The cost of the entire group of buildings when completed will probably reach, at the lowest estimate, the sum of ten million dollars.

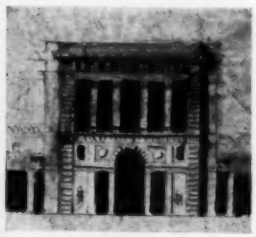
SKETCH A

The Building Act of London limits the height of all buildings to 80 feet to the cornice, and an additional two stories in a roof above this. Nothing is permitted to go beyond this height except it is in the nature of an architectural embellishment of which no use can be made. The tower feature of the Bush Buildings will be permitted under this later ruling. The buildings will all be finished, generally speaking, in the character of a first-class office building, such as we have constructed in New York, with all the modern facilities as to elevator service which has made New York the standard throughout the world.



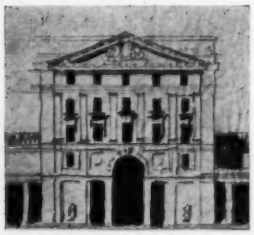
SKETCH B

NIGHT VIEW, ALONG STRAND, AND SKETCH PROGRESS STUDIES OF STRAND END OF CENTRAL BUILDING

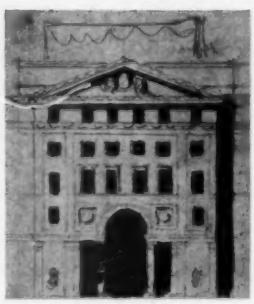


SKETCH D

SKETCH C



SKETCH E



SKETCH F

The two side buildings are not equal in area, due to the fact that Kingsway does not strike the property quite at its center, but they will be treated to make as near an architectural balance as possible. The available area of the east building is about 200,000 square feet of floor space, the west building being about 230,000 square feet. The total

VIEW OF THE MODEL WITH CHURCH OF ST. MARY LE STRAND REMOVED AND A DIFFERENT STUDY OF TOWER IN PLACE

ground area of the site is approximately three acres.

There will be a passageway on both sides of the central Sales Building through gardens, with plantings and pools, stairways, and balustrades. There is a difference in level of one story between the entrance on the Strand side and that on Kingsway, all the land at this point of London sloping towards the Thames. The general character of the architecture may best be defined as a modernized Roman classic. The two lower stories of the adjacent buildings will

AEROPLANE VIEW OF SITE, SHOWING THE ARMY Y. M. C. A. HUTS AS USED DURING THE WAR

This view is Northeast, overlooking Lincoln Inns Fields, Chancery Lane and the Law Courts

be completed architecturally so as to permit their use for stores and banking purposes, being treated with a good deal of show window space. The central entrance which will form the vista of Kingsway will be a great recessed arch in which there will be two free-standing columns supporting a cornice and clock, silhouetted in the arch, forming the central feature. These columns will be 40 feet in height. The arch itself will be about 40 feet wide and 80 feet high. The tower column will be about 25 feet high, and the tower will be used as a point of observation from which the view of London will be the most interesting that can be secured from any point. Its height will be 300 feet.

SAME AS VIEW AT LEFT, WITH PHOTO OF MODEL FITTED IN PLACE TO PROPER SCALE AND ANGLE

THE attitude toward this group of buildings from the point of view of the Londoner is one of intense curiosity because he has heard so much about it, and because he has watched this vacant property for so long a time. The London County Council, which has ab-

AEROPLANE VIEW WITH MODEL FITTED IN PLACE, LOOKING WEST ALONG STRAND TOWARD CHARING CROSS AND TRAFALGAR SQUARE

XUM

PRELIMINARY STUDY ALONG GOTHIC LINES OF VISTA DOWN KINGSWAY, RECALLING THE LINES OF THE BUSH BUILDING IN NEW YORK

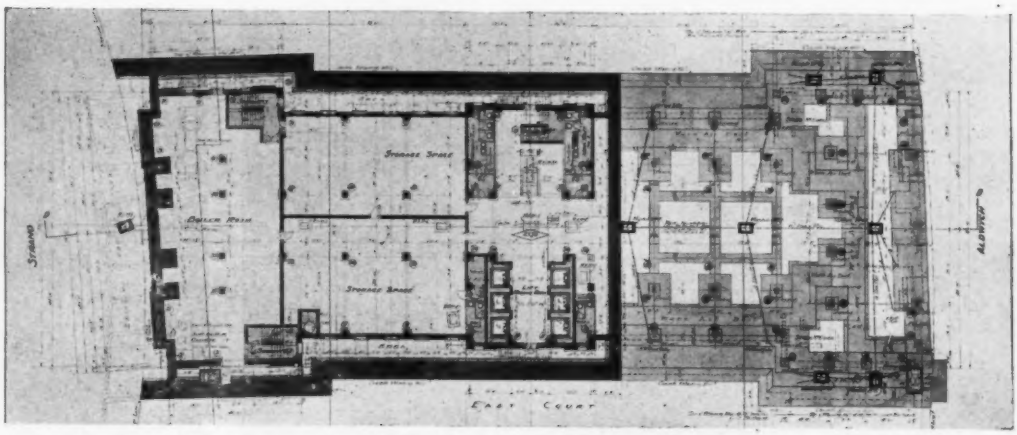
This was suggested as desirable for "trade" reasons, but was abandoned as being too much out of harmony with the existing environment

A FURTHER STUDY OF VISTA DOWN KINGSWAY, ALONG RENAISSANCE LINES

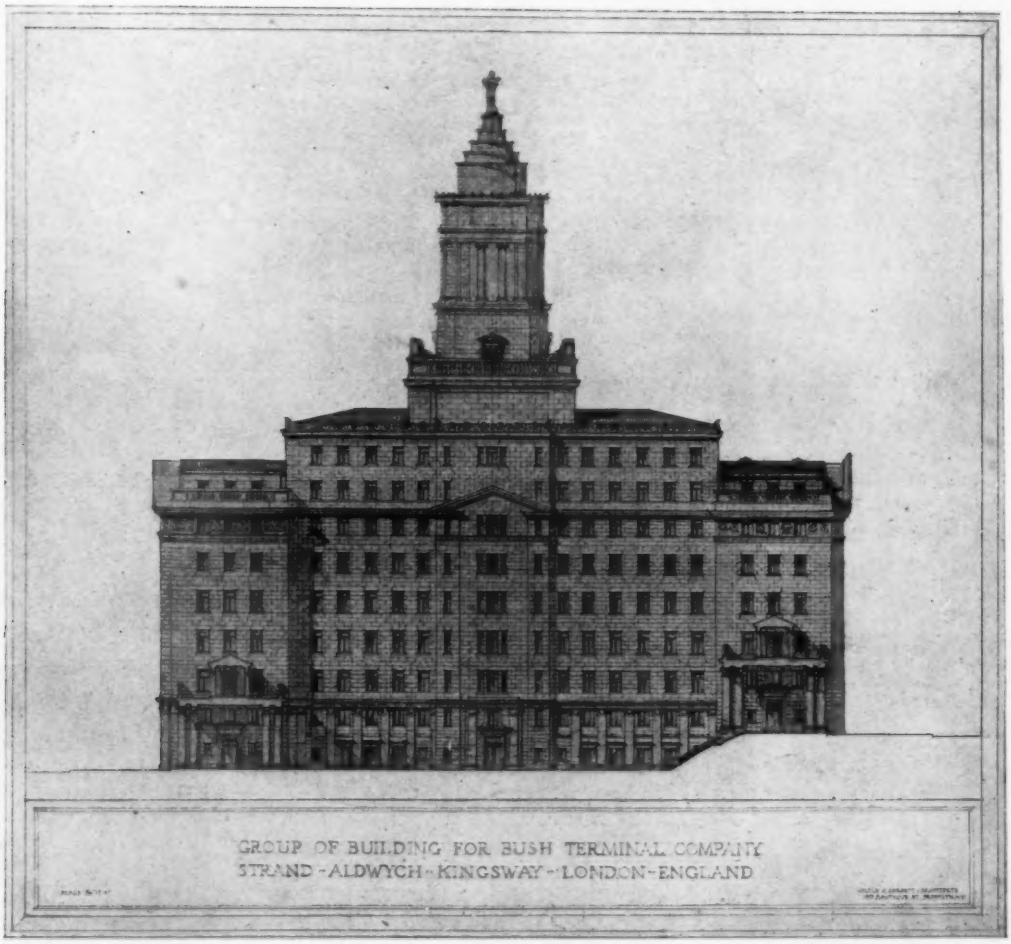
Abandoned as extreme tower height not permitted, another further reason that the structure itself lacked "emphasis" necessary to terminate so important a street

BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

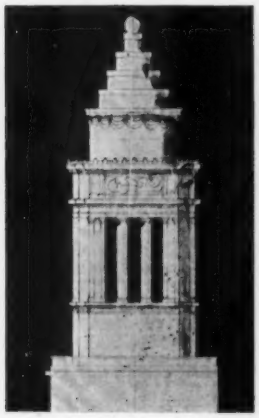


CELLAR PLAN, CENTRAL BUILDING



SIDE ELEVATION, CENTRAL BUILDING, COMPLETE WITH TOWER

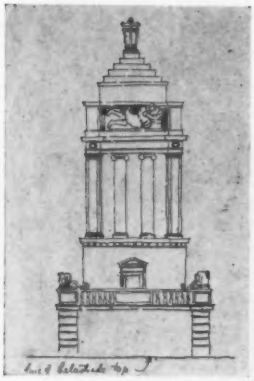
LIBRARY
THE DETROIT EDISON CO.
JUL 25 1921



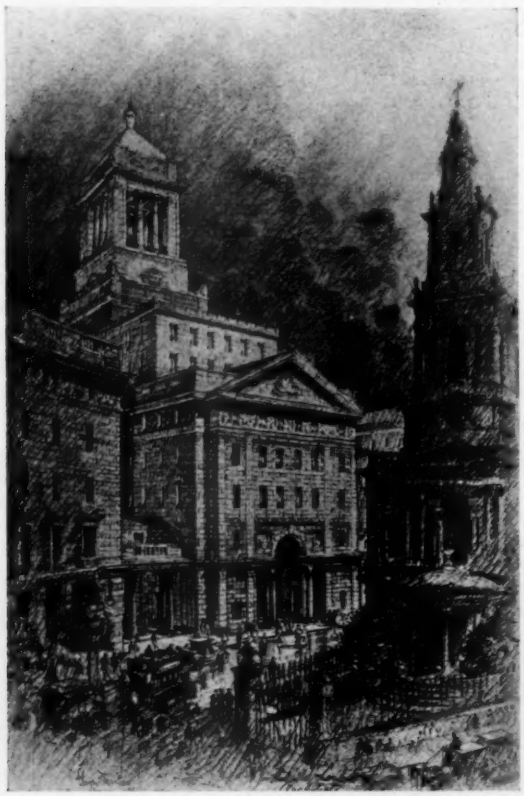
SKETCH A

THE SCHEME AS FINALLY APPROVED

SKETCH D

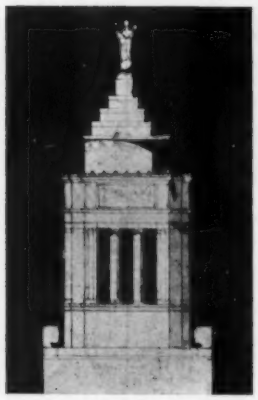


SKETCH B



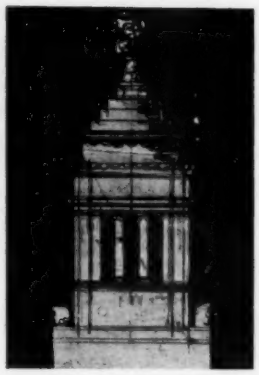
PERSPECTIVE VIEW OF BUILDING AND CHURCH OF ST. MARY LE STRAND, SHOWING "SQUARE" TOWER AND STREET FRONT OF BUILDING LIMITED TO THE LEGAL HEIGHT OF EIGHTY FEET TO CORNICE LINE

SKETCH E



SKETCH C

In margins, sketch progress studies for silhouettes of tower



SKETCH F

SKETCH A

Sketch studies for scheme of Aldwych end, Kingsway,

SKETCH B

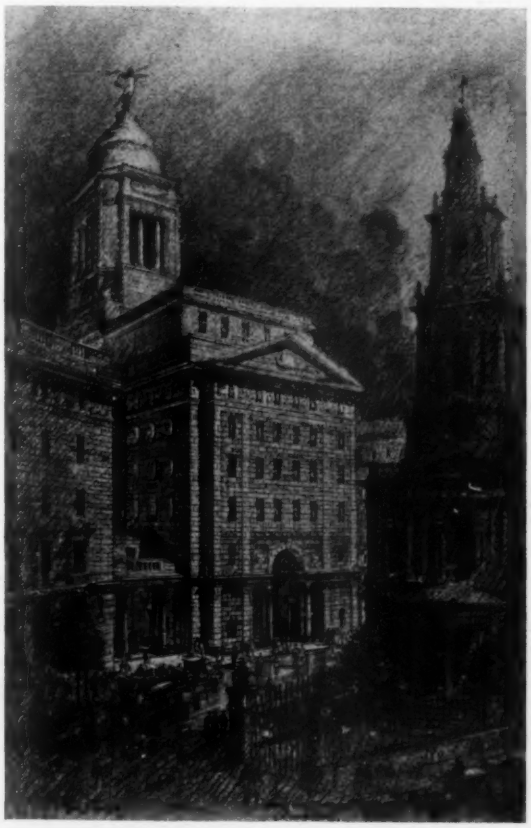
where this building forms terminating vista.

SKETCH C

solute control of every detail of construction, a control going far beyond the statute laws, showed itself more than ready to help us in every possible way. The London business man, to whom the co-operative idea of the buildings will naturally appeal, we found to be more than enthusiastic. London has for so many years been the greatest buying market in the world that an idea which would facilitate and increase this buying activity could not help but be received with enthusiasm.

There are many historical associations with the site on which the Bush Building is being erected. The house of the Earl of Craven, who championed the Queen of Bohemia in the seventeenth century, was here, and excavations by the builders have revealed a mass of garden mould and decayed roots of trees which, in all probability, formed a part of the garden of Craven House where these seventeenth century lovers concluded their romantic careers. Again, Nell Gwynne lived across the street in the hey-day of her glory, whilst another celebrity of the locality was Jack Sheppard, whose life was spent in the purlieus of Wych street and Magpole alley.

The Strand, too, is rich in historical interest, and with the construction of the great Bush Buildings the last glimpse of the Strand, perhaps for years to come—in the sense of the good mother earth on which the historic thoroughfare was laid so many centuries ago will be shut out with the covering of the "island" site. Many stirring scenes have been enacted here and thereabouts. Upon the Strand,—the name is held to be clearly of Saxon and not Norman origin.— Earl Godwin and his son Harold, in 1052, drew their land forces in the insurrection



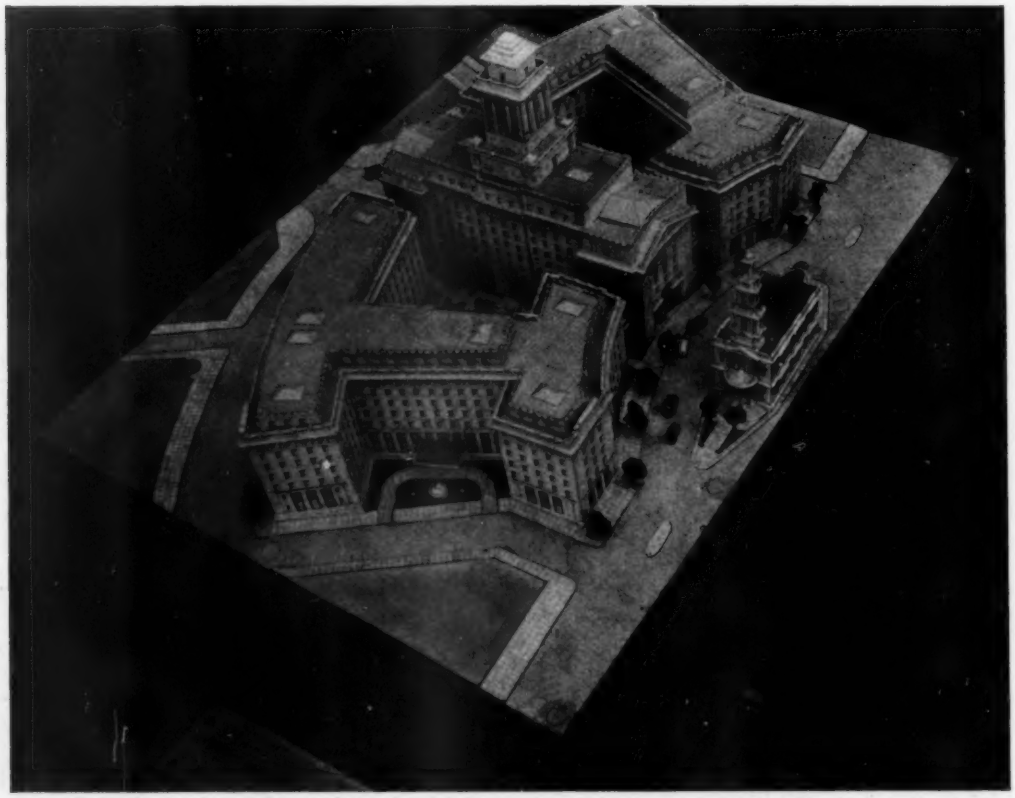
PERSPECTIVE WITH MODIFIED STUDY OF TOWER AND STREET FRONT OF BUILDING RAISED ONE STORY ABOVE LEGAL HEIGHT WHICH WAS PERMITTED BY SPECIAL ACT OF LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL BECAUSE OF THE "ARCHITECTURAL" NECESSITY OF A DOMINATING CENTRAL MOTIVE IN A FAÇADE SO LONG

SKETCH D

SKETCH E

which they headed against Edward the Confessor.

AT a later date several theatres sprang up, The Globe, The Opera Comique, and The Olympic, the last built over the site of Craven House. It was founded by Astley, the celebrated circus proprietor, and later contained the first revolving stage in London, evidences of which were found during excavations, in the shape of massive brick foundations at a very low depth, together with the girders and pivots on which his stage revolved. Astley called his theatre a "house of public exhibition of horsemanship and droll." In Wych street proper were some earlier buildings with over-hanging timbered fronts which probably had claims to picturesqueness, but the builders over the rest of the property appear to have rivalled in taste their descendants of the late Victorian era.



VIEW OF MODEL OF ENTIRE GROUP, WITH CHURCH OF ST. MARY LE STRAND
This was made at 1/32" scale, of cardboard, drawn and rendered
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

BEAUX-ARTS INSTITUTE of DESIGN

DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE, LLOYD WARREN

ARCHITECTURE, RAYMOND M. HOOD
INTERIOR DECORATION, ERNEST F. TYLER

SCULPTURE, JOHN GREGORY
MURAL PAINTING, ERNEST C. PEIXOTTO

PROGRAM

CLASS "A"—III PROJET

The Committee on Architecture proposes as subject of this Competition:

"A STORAGE WAREHOUSE"

The high value of real estate in New York City has recently forced the development of a type of warehouse devoted exclusively to the storage of old files and documents for banks, insurance companies and other business organizations which cannot afford to set aside the necessary space in their own building or quarters for this purpose. Thus all sorts of papers and files, for which there is no need of immediate or continuous reference, are sent to this storage building where space is rented. Such a building is naturally placed on a piece of property, not too far distant from the center of the business activities that it serves, but where land values are much lower.

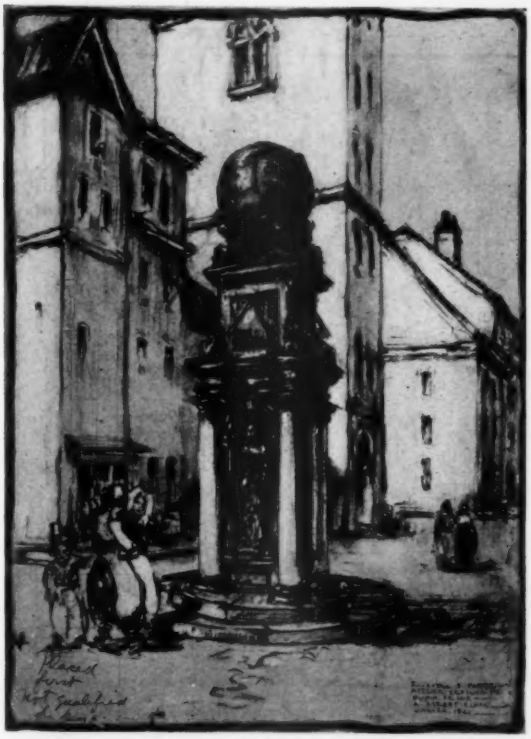
The plot on which this building is to be built is in the form of a right-angled triangle, the hypothenuse and long side of which face two converging streets of equal importance, and the short side abuts adjoining property. The short side of the property measures 150 ft., the long side 200 ft., and the hypothenuse 250 ft.

The general requirements for the building are as follows:

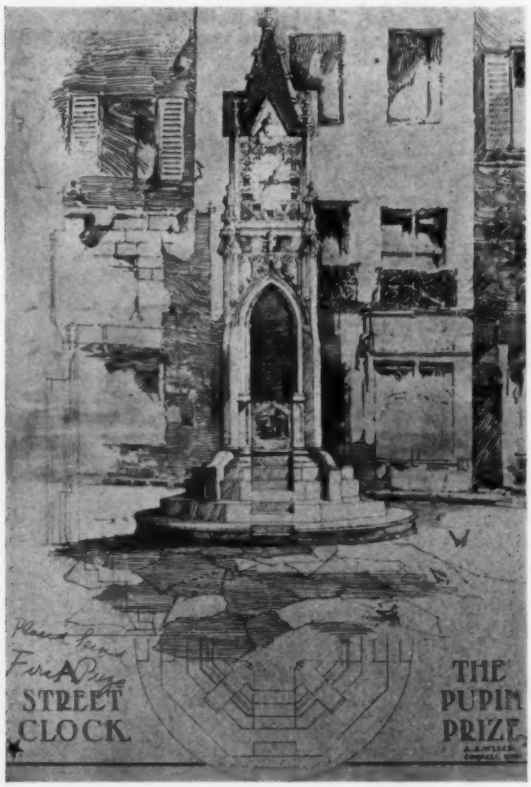
There shall be one public entrance and one service or freight entrance at the street level, so disposed, that the main office of the building shall have full command of both entrances, as the control of the exits and the entrances is naturally of the first importance in a building of this character. The space occupied by the offices is relatively small, as it requires but few clerks and executives to handle the work of such an establishment.

Approximately 100,000 square feet of floor area is required. This area can be arranged in any way desired, bearing the following conditions in mind: (1) that the area requirements of the different tenants vary, so the form of the building and the units of space adopted should permit of great flexibility for sub-division; (2) all floors should be inter-connected by service stairs, and by freight and passenger elevators, preferably one each of the last two; (3) space near exterior light should be provided on each floor where occasional clerical work may be done in connection with the files; (4) exterior light for the storage spaces is optional, although for ventilation it is advisable to provide a few windows, which at the same time may serve as direct light for the clerical spaces mentioned above.

It will be seen that great freedom is allowed in handling the mass of the building, but the exterior should express the solidity and stability suitable to an establishment devoted to such purposes.



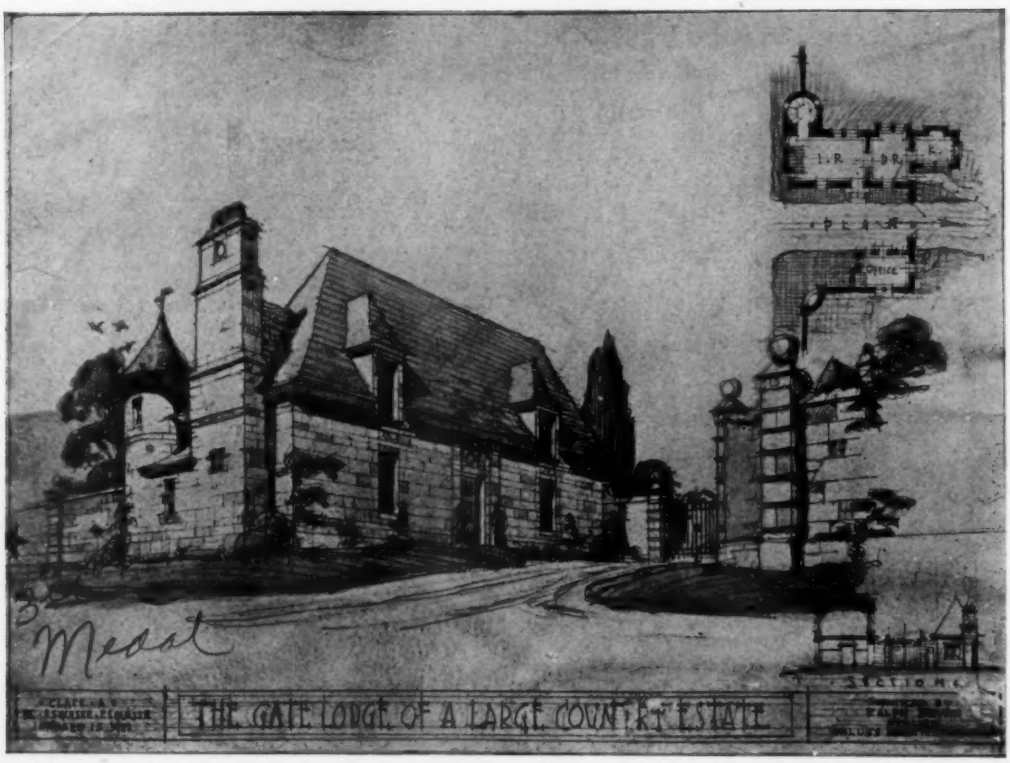
PLACED FIRST—NOT QUALIFIED FOR MONEY PRIZE
L. S. POTTER UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE PUPIN PRIZE—A STREET CLOCK



PLACED SECOND—FIRST PRIZE
A. A. WEBER CORNELL UNIVERSITY
THE PUPIN PRIZE—A STREET CLOCK

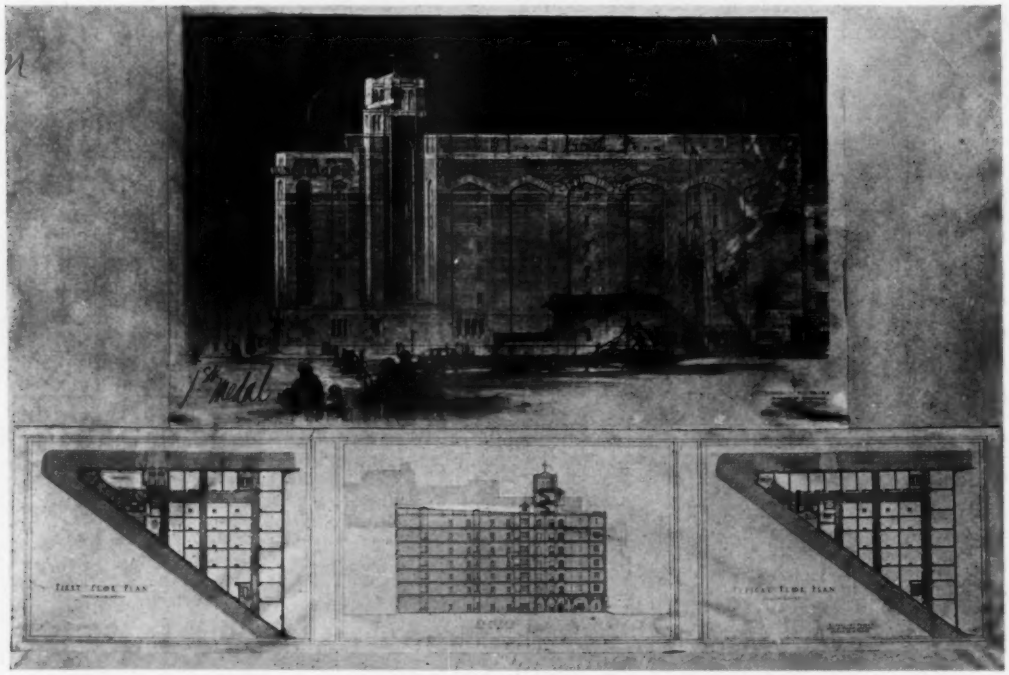
JURY OF AWARD:

B. W. Morris, C. H. Aldrich, H. Hornbostel, J. W.



R. BRYAN — THIRD MEDAL — DALLAS ARCHITECTURAL CLUB

CLASS A—III. ESQUISSE-ESQUISSE



L. H. PRIES — FIRST MEDAL — UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CLASS A—III. PROJET—A STORAGE WAREHOUSE

STUDENT WORK, BEAUX-ARTS INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

O'Connor, O. Faelton, C. S. Peabody, E. V. Meeks, M. Prevot, J. Wynkoop and D. J. Baum.

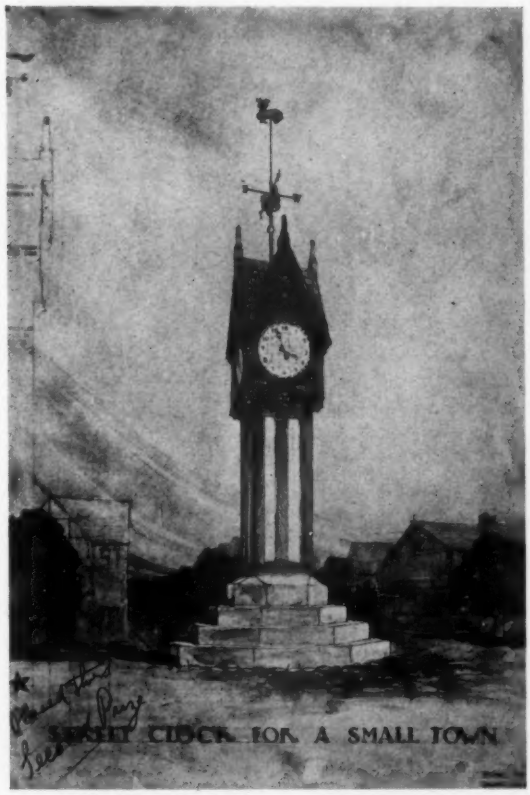
NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 70.

AWARDS:

First Medal: W. L. Hindenach, "T" Square Club, Phila.; L. H. Pries, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.; R. B. Thomas, Yale Univ., New Haven.

Second Medal: R. M. Crosby, B. H. Dierks and L. H. Lashmit, Carnegie Inst. of Tech., Pitts.; L. Hamilton, Yale Univ., New Haven.

Mention: H. A. Wieland, P. F. Simpson, H. T. Aspinwall, C. L. DePrefontaine, S. H. Jamison, N. D. Kutchukian,



PLACED THIRD—SECOND PRIZE

R. D. McPHERSON CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE PUPIN PRIZE—A STREET CLOCK

H. W. Pohlmeyer, A. P. Herrman, R. W. Schmertz, R. V. Murison, K. Snow, L. H. Rank and L. J. Rockwell, Carnegie Inst. of Tech., Pitts.; C. Contreras, D. R. Everson, L. Valker, E. W. Burkhardt, L. T. Obel, Y. P. Kasin, M. L. Colean, H. J. R. Barrett, M. L. Abbott and R. H. Bickel, Columbia Univ., N. Y. C.; M. F. Winiarski, W. C. Sponholz, A. J. Schoening, G. D. Conner, H. L. Fassett, T. M. Hofmeester, Jr., F. M. Baldwin, R. L. Minkus, S. C. Levi, N. J. Schlossman and I. J. Loebl, Chicago School of Architecture, Chicago; E. O. Lauffer and B. C. McGarry, Jr., Atelier MacDowell, Cleveland; E. Olsen, Atelier Hirons, N. Y. C.; E. L. Howard, Patron H. Van Buren Magonigle, N. Y. C.; W. B. Mylchreest, Syracuse Univ., Syracuse; E. C. K. Schmidt, A. Westover, Jr., L. Z. Slawter and H. R. Leicht, "T" Square Club, Phila.; R. Gleeson, D. R. Cochran and G. K. Geerlings, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.; D. K. Frohwerk, Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence; T. F. Price, Atelier Wynkoop, N. Y. C.

H. C.: E. Coscia, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.

PROGRAM

CLASS "A"—III ESQUISSE-ESQUISSE

The Committee on Architecture proposes as subject of this Competition:

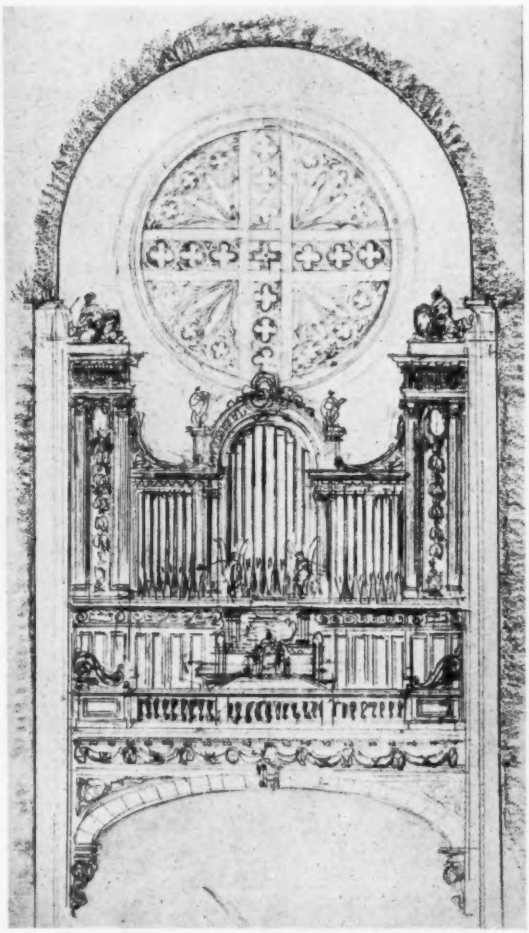
"THE GATE LODGE OF A LARGE COUNTRY ESTATE"

This building has a three-fold purpose; first, to provide an attractive and comfortable home for the head gardener and his family, second, to give adequate control of the entrance gate of the estate; third, and not least, to give the keynote in character, style and materials of the whole place, whether of formality, picturesqueness or whatever spirit is desired.

The entrance gateway is to be an integral part of the design of the lodge, either incorporated in an archway or immediately adjoining. The driveway entrance must have a clear width of 12 ft. and height of 10 ft. and is to be equipped with a pair of gates. A small auxiliary entrance for pedestrians is advisable, though not obligatory.

The head-gardener's quarters shall include a living-room, dining room, kitchen and two or three bed rooms arranged in two stories. Connected with, or forming a part of the lodge shall be his office, a single room, from which he directs the work on the grounds of the estate.

(*Continued on page* 46)



FIRST MENTION

DOROTHEA PORTER COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

CLASS B—III. ESQUISSE-ESQUISSE—A CHURCH ORGAN LOFT

Trinity "Old Swedes" Church, Wilmington, Del.

(See reproduction of original drawing by O. R. Eggers on opposite page)

TRINITY, the "Old Swedes" Church at Wilmington, Del., was built in 1698, and is still in admirable repair and regular use. It is interesting not alone because it offers a picturesque effect, but also for the reason that the many restorations and additions have been so carefully and skilfully adjusted that it is only those familiar with this church who do not imagine that the entire structure did not originate at the same date.

The tower was not added until 1802, and it was only fifty years ago that the south porch with its big round arch, shown in Mr. Eggers' sketch, was built. This was not done through any motive to secure an architectural effect, but because it was found necessary to buttress the south wall. It is fortunate that someone with artistic knowledge accomplished this task in the present very satisfactory manner.

The interior is less changed than the exterior, and is practically the same as it was in the eighteenth century.

OLD SWEDES CHURCH, WILMINGTON, DEL.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT Series of Early American Architecture

OLD SWEDES CHURCH, WILMINGTON, DEL.

EDITORIAL

A Series of Measured Drawings

OUR readers will recall that during 1916 and 1917 there was reproduced in THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT a series of photographs and measured drawings of Northern Italian details secured by Mr. Walter G. Thomas and Mr. John T. Fallon, who visited Italy as representatives of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT. The instant popularity of this series of details proved its great suggestive value. The outbreak of the war in Europe caused a suspension of the work of Messrs. Thomas and Fallon, and it is only recently that it has been found practicable to resume this important feature in THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT.

In this issue the first of a series of photographs and measured drawings of French and Italian details appears. It is proposed to include in following issues one example of foreign details, the material for which is now in hand, and which was secured by Mr. Robert M. Blackall, the thirty-fifth holder of the Rotch Traveling Scholarship.

A feature of these drawings that was not presented in the first series is the full sized sections of mouldings of the various subjects photographed and measured.

The American Academy in Rome

AN interesting announcement has been made that the American Academy in Rome will inaugurate a Department of Musical Composition providing for three fellowships. These new fellowships are to be awarded in a manner similar to the existing fellowships in architecture, painting, sculpture and landscape architecture, and there will be one prix de Rome winner in musical composition each year, the fellowship providing three years of residence and study in Rome, or two years in Rome and one year in Paris for each fellowship. The total funds necessary for permanently carrying on this important work, it is stated, will be forthcoming in ample time.

Reference has been made from time to time in these columns of the important work in architecture that has been accomplished by the American Academy in Rome, and it has been pointed out that generous donors in the United States might with consistency divert some of their large means to an institution so very worthy of support.

The inclusion of a scholarship in music rounds out the functioning of this organization in the beaux arts.

Every architect who has followed the work of the American Academy will, we are sure, feel a sense of pride that an institution so valuable and so constructive in all its efforts, is, if possible, to become even more valuable in the field of art.

What Retards Building Construction?

THERE is one basis on which there is likely to be a general revival of building, and that is one of costs," editorially states the *Journal of Commerce* of New York. And it counsels legislatures, would-be reformers and the building material industries in general to learn this elementary truth. It is as significant in this instance as in almost every other, where the retardance of building is discussed, that in considering costs, that of the most essential item of all, money, is seldom, if ever, referred to.

It is the high cost of money more than anything else that is responsible for present conditions.

Let us take, for example, the present situation in Philadelphia, as ably summed up by the *North American* of that city.

Building projects in Philadelphia involving an expenditure of at least $100,000,000, are now held up, awaiting the adjustment of present building uncertainties. These uncertainties, state the *North American*, are not due so much to the high cost of labor and materials, as to the present excessively high cost of money.

With easier money conditions, these vast operations would be at once started on the way towards early completion, and the stagnation of building would be replaced by activities that would give employment to the thousands now out of work.

The general public have been fed to the point of repletion on various theories by self-constituted authorities as to the reason for building depression. Whether it is that they do not reason clearly, or because the herring has been so successfully drawn across the trail as to throw them off the scent, is debatable. But, with an easier, freer and cheaper loaning market, it is certain that the present loudly discussed factors of building depression would sink to insignificance.

XUM

Beaux-Arts Institute of Design

(*Continued from page 43*)

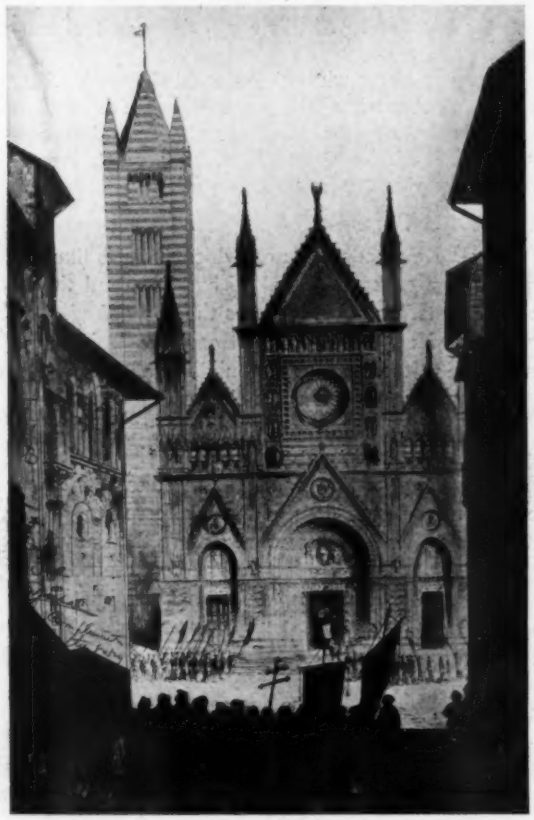
The ground area of the lodge proper including the office shall not exceed 1,300 sq. ft.

JURY OF AWARD:

R. M. Hood, L. Warren, J. M. Howells, F. G. Frost, H. W. Corbett, J. F. Harbeson and T. S. Holden.

Note: This Jury also served as Jury of Award for the Class "B"—III Esquisse-Esquisse, Class "A" and "B" Archaeology—III Projet and Class "A" and "B" Archaeology—III Measured Drawings.

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 32.



THIRD MEDAL

R. F. LARSON UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

CLASS A and B ARCHAEOLOGY—III PROJET.

THE FAÇADE OF AN ITALIAN GOTHIC CHURCH

AWARDS:

Third Medal: G. W. Trofast-Gillette, Columbia Univ., N. Y. C.; R. Bryan, Dallas Archtl. Club, Dallas; R. K. Galbraith, Architectural League of Indianapolis, Indianapolis; R. F. Larson and K. A. McGrew, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.

Mention: G. Fraser, Cornell University, Ithaca; C. Contreras, and Helen M. Gail, Columbia University, N. Y. C.; N. S. Schlossman, Chicago School of Architecture, Chicago; G. A. Hacker, Atelier Sibley, Palisade; R. L. White, Univ. of Texas, Austin; G. P. Turner and D. R. Cochran, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.; R. B. Thomas and L. Hamilton, Yale Univ., New Haven.

PROGRAM

CLASS "B"—III ESQUISSE-ESQUISSE

The Committee on Architecture proposes as subject of this Competition:

"A CHURCH ORGAN LOFT"

The organ loft which forms the subject of the program is to be placed on the west entrance wall, of a church, and will comprise, beside the organ, a gallery or balcony for the accommodation of the organist. In the study of the organ the arrangement of and relation between the pipes may be freely interpreted, inasmuch as they are usually false pipes, the actual working pipes of the organ being concealed. The total height from the floor of the gallery to the top of the longest pipe must not exceed 35 ft. Access to the gallery is gained by means of a passage concealed in the adjacent walls. The width of the church nave is 35 ft.

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 23.

AWARDS:

First Mention: F. L. Hutchins, Dorothea Porter and A. J. Bagley, Columbia University, N. Y. C.; H. F. Hunter, Los Angeles A. C., Los Angeles; A. L. Muller, Atelier Wynkoop, N. Y. C.

Mention: R. L. Linder, Atelier Denver, Denver; T. Ross, Jr., Atelier Parsons-Chicago A. C., Chicago; E. F. Penfield, Atelier Wynkoop, N. Y. C.

PROGRAM

CLASS "A" AND "B" ARCHAEOLOGY—III PROJET

The Committee on Architecture proposes as subject of this Competition:

"THE FACADE OF AN ITALIAN GOTHIC CHURCH"

Gothic architecture in Italy is, properly speaking, not "Gothic" architecture, inasmuch as it never followed the essential construction forms of the real Gothic, and it made use of Gothic motifs only superficially, permitting, even here, classic influence to modify the decoration.

Thus Gothic architecture in Italy was not a native expression, but rather a fashion imported from the north, and as such we see in it the modifications caused by Italian tradition, climatic conditions and the use of local building material. These influences growingly forced the use of classic forms in this style, until finally the rising tide of the Renaissance overcame the northern influence completely.

In the northern part of Italy examples of this architecture interpreted in brick, stone and terra cotta are found. Further south, where marble abounded, a different development occurred. The native love of color found expression in rich mosaics and polychrome marble incrustations. In all the examples the influence of classic detail is seen in the carving, which came finally to have the character of applied ornament. The hot climate made small windows necessary and thus limited the use of tracery decoration so familiar in the northern Gothic work.

Examples of Italian Gothic architecture may be found in the cathedrals of Florence, Lucca, Siena, Orvieto, Bologna and in the Ducal Palace at Venice and the Vecchio Palace at Florence.

The subject of this competition is the façade of a church with nave and two side aisles. The overall width of the façade shall not exceed 80 ft.

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 16.

AWARDS:

Third Medal: L. G. Noyes, R. S. Twitchell, W. H. Kraemer and P. Simonsen, Columbia University, N. Y. C.; R. L. White, Univ. of Texas, Austin; R. F. Larson, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.; F. A. Chapman, Atelier Wynkoop, N. Y. C.

Mention: E. J. Manning, Chicago Sch. of Architecture, Chicago; A. Gambell, Portland A. C., Portland, O.; Essie Lipscomb, Univ. of Texas, Austin.

CLASS "A" AND "B" ARCHAEOLOGY—III MEASURED DRAWINGS

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 2.

Subject: Church, Mexico.

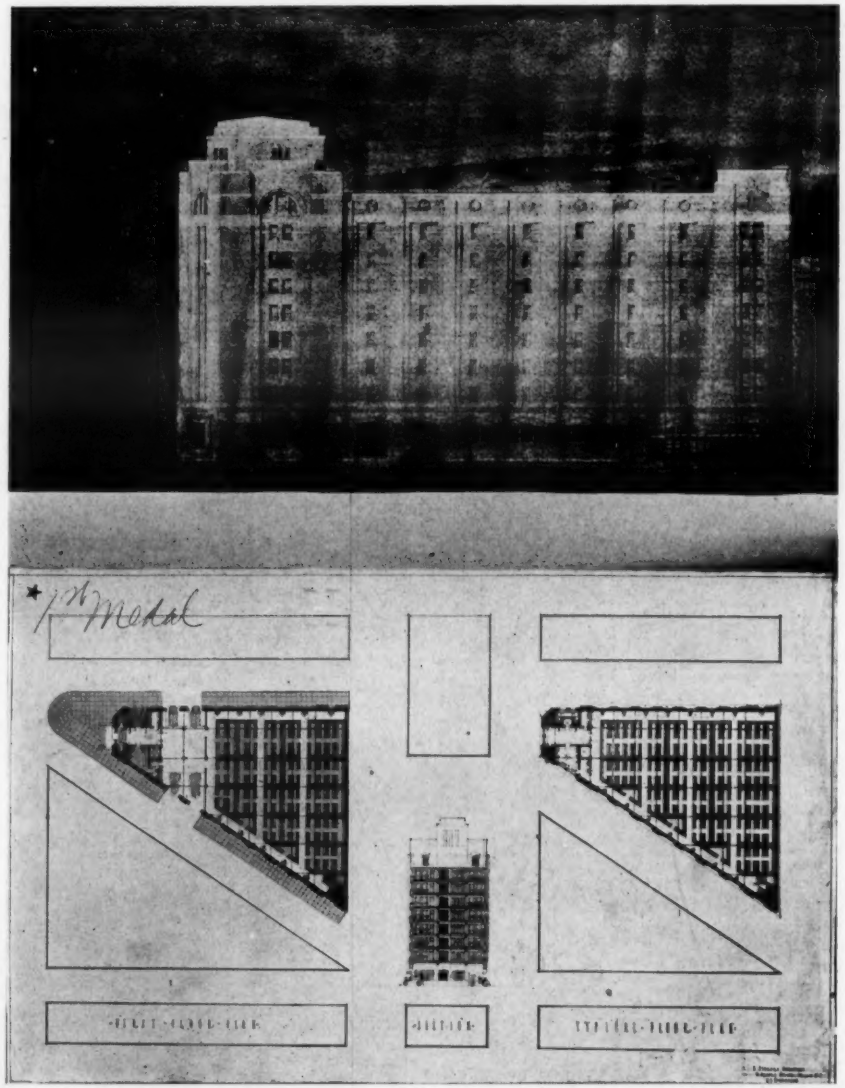
AWARD:

Third Medal: C. Contreras, Columbia Univ., N. Y. C.

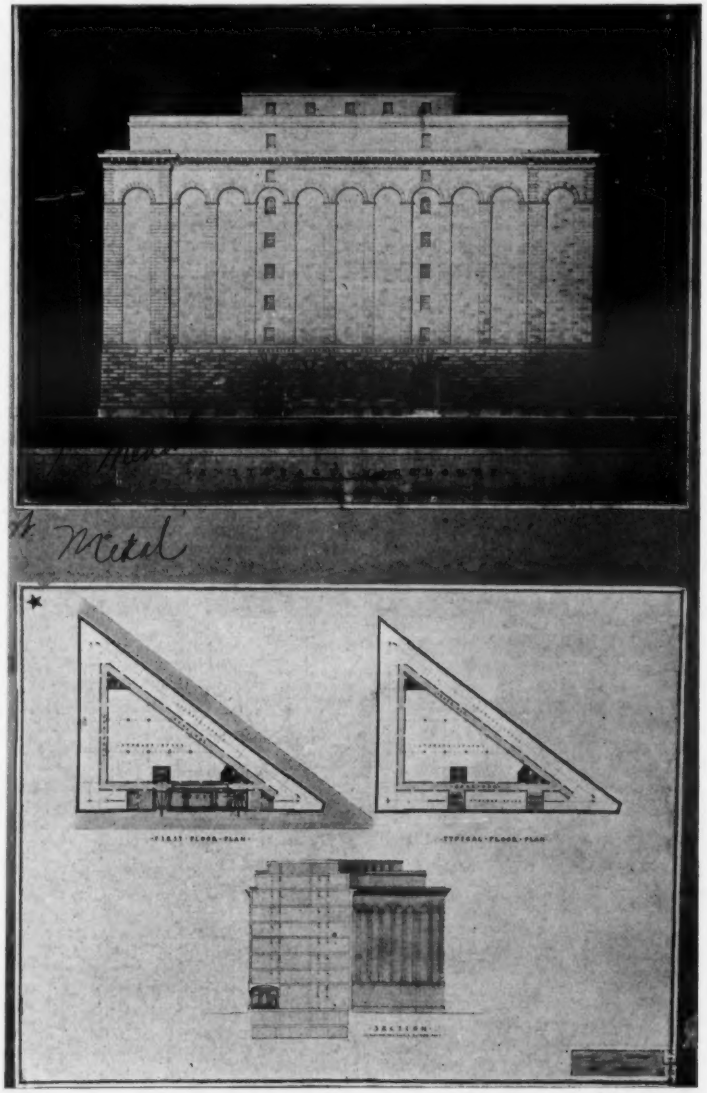
Subject: Doorway on Beach Street, Syracuse, N. Y.

AWARD:

Third Medal: W. B. Mylchreest, Syracuse Univ., Syracuse.



W. L. HINDENBACH — FIRST MEDAL — T-SQUARE CLUB, PHILADELPHIA



R. B. THOMAS — FIRST MEDAL — YALE UNIVERSITY

CLASS A—III. PROJET—A STORAGE WAREHOUSE
STUDENT WORK—BEAUX-ARTS INSTITUTE OF DESIGN

THE PUPIN PRIZE

The Gift of Prof. M. I. Pupin of Columbia University
Offered for the ornamental treatment of some Scientific Appliance

FIRST PRIZE—$50.00 SECOND PRIZE—$25.00

(For conditions governing this Prize Competition, See Circular of Information, Article VIII—Sec. 2 and 3.)

PROGRAM

The Committee on Architecture proposes as subject of this Competition:

A STREET CLOCK

A clock, which has been given to a small town by one of its wealthy citizens, is to be placed in the middle of the square formed by the intersection of two important thoroughfares.

Entire freedom is left in the design of the clock as to the choice of materials used in its construction, its elaboration and form, and the method of telling time. The only restrictions are that the circular island of safety on which it is placed is only 10 ft. in diameter, and the total height of the clock is not to exceed 24 ft.

JURY OF AWARD:

R. M. Hood, H. O. Milliken, J. W. O'Connor, O. Faelton, F. G. Frost and C. S. Peabody.

NUMBER OF DRAWINGS SUBMITTED: 39.

AWARDS:

Placed First (Not qualified for money prize): R. S. Potter, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.

Placed Second—First Prize ($50.00): A. A. Weber, Cornell Univ., Ithaca

Placed Third—Second Prize ($25.00): R. D. McPherson, Cornell Univ., Ithaca.

Placed Fourth: S. J. Laschenski, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.

Placed Fifth: L. H. Pries, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Phila.

Building for Y. M. & Y. W. H. Association, Newark, N. J.

THE building is to be treated in Georgian style, an attempt being made to produce an effect not too institutional and not too residential. Along the property line is provided a light court, nine feet wide, which will afford protection from neighboring encroachment. The plans provide for another story to the main building should the structure ultimately become too small for the organizations.

The building will have a frontage of 96 feet on High Street and 176 feet on West Kinney Street, exclusive of an extension containing a swimming pool and shower rooms, 60 x 106 feet, on West Kinney Street. It is proposed to have the exterior finish of limestone or terra cotta and red Harvard brick.

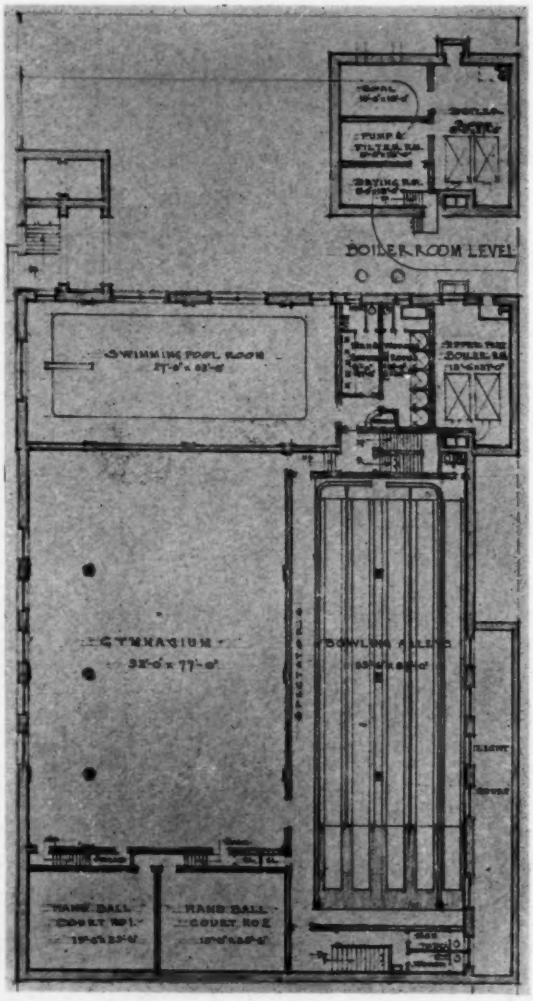
Placing the main floor a few feet above High Street makes the level of the swimming pool, gymnasium, locker rooms, and spectators' gallery easily accessible without going through the main building. A grade entrance on West Kinney Street is such as to accommodate those who wish to exercise without entering the main foyer, thereby preventing congestion at the entrances.

Entering the vestibule from High Street, one may look through large glass doors into an elliptical reception hall two stories high. The desk control is in this room and affords a view of the hall and main stairs. Off the room are the men's game room, women's social room, office. stairs which run from the gymnasium and bowling alley level to a roof garden, and the auditorium lobby, which may be shut off at this point if the auditorium is rented.

The terrace runs along West Kinney Street and around the rear, forming a wide passage to the street from the auditorium and also a lounging place.

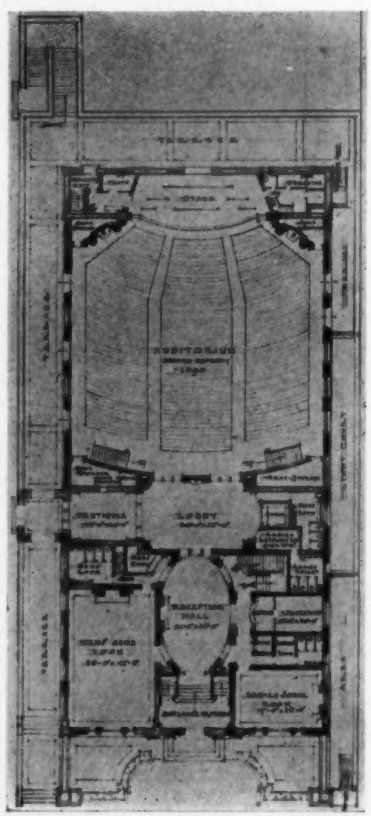
The Men's Department is placed at the corner in a single unit. On the main floor is their game room, opening direct to the terrace, with coat room and private stairs to the billiard room below.

The women are afforded a secluded social room on the main floor with the prescribed equipment and

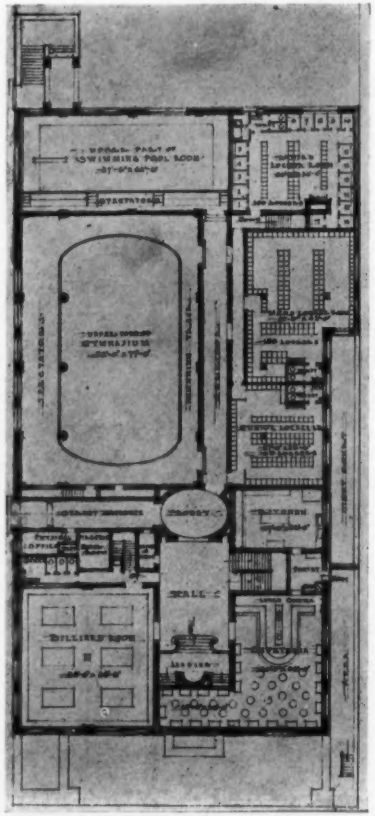


BASEMENT FLOOR

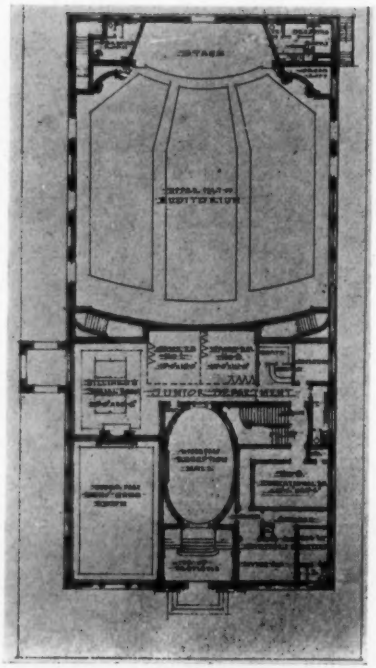
FIRST PRIZE DESIGN—FRANK GRAD, *ARCHITECT*



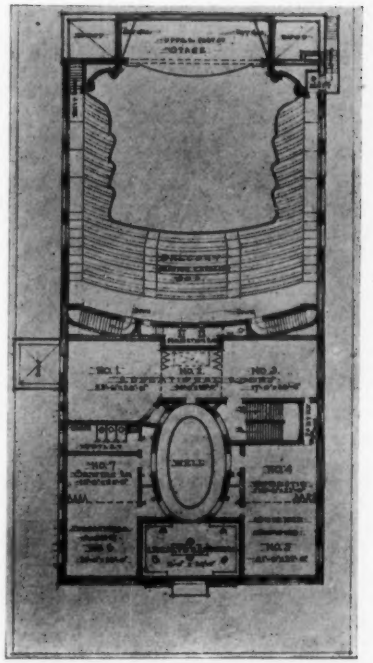
MAIN FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

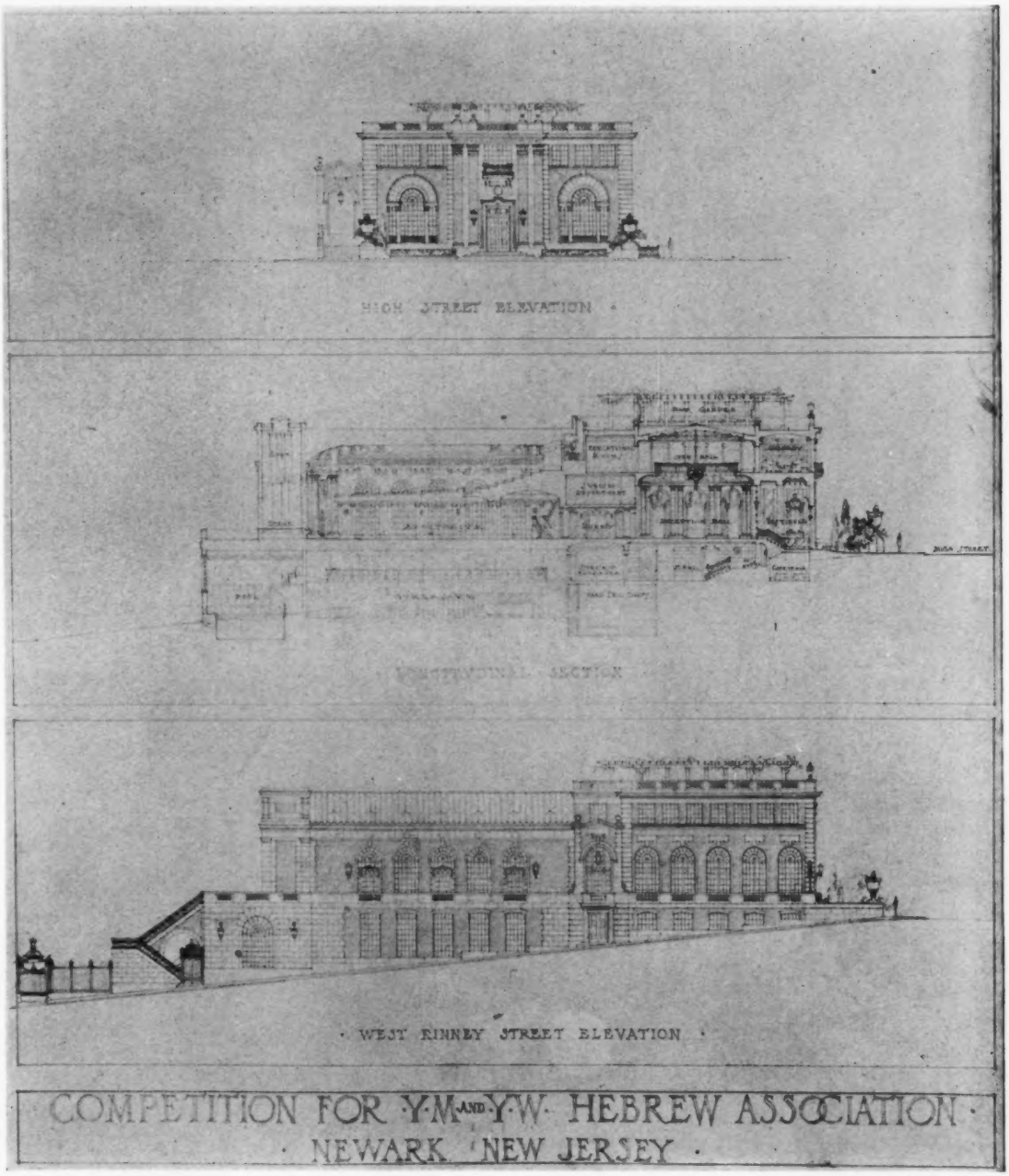


MEZZANINE FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR

COMPETITION FOR A Y. M. AND Y. W. HEBREW ASSOCIATION BUILDING, NEWARK, N. J.
FIRST PRIZE DESIGN—FRANK GRAD, *ARCHITECT*



FIRST PRIZE DESIGN—FRANK GRAD, *ARCHITECT*

ON the direct road from Florence, passing the Porta Romana, through the village of Galluzzo and but a short distance beyond, is the Certosa of the Val D'Emo. Its location is one of beautiful views. The convent crowns a cypress-covered hill, forming a picturesque sight as approached by the tourist.

The Certosa was founded in 1341 by Niccolo Acciajuolo, Grand Seneschal to Queen Joanna of Naples. In 1875 there were nineteen monks here and there are still residing in this old convent a number of members of the ecclesiastical order.

The principal church is excessively rich, decorated with frescoes, marbles and pietra-dura. The general character of the cloisters, here illustrated by photographs and measured drawings, is frankly early Florentine Renaissance, especially in the columns which appear to have been restored later.

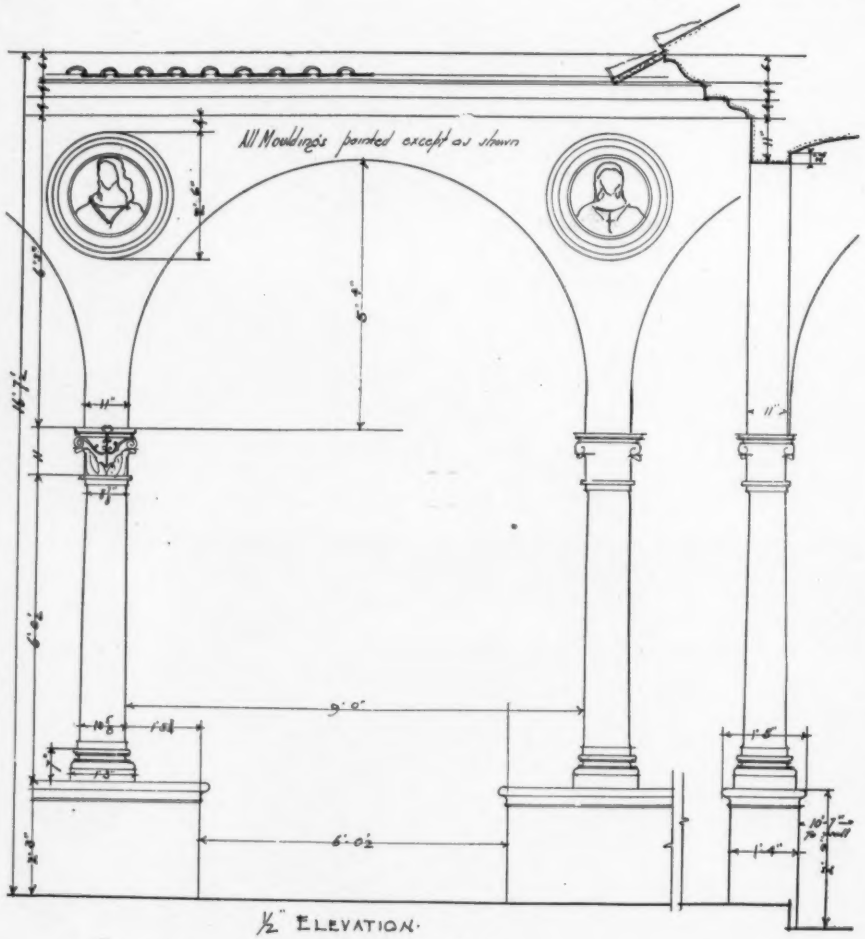
In the accompanying detail of the cloister bay there are terra cotta figures attributed to the school of Della Robbia. The detail shown in the photograph and not measured and drawn, is painted on the stucco.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, SERIES II.
FRENCH AND ITALIAN DETAILS

CLOISTERS OF THE CERTOSA DI VAL D'EMO, AT GALLUZZO, NEAR FLORENCE, ITALY

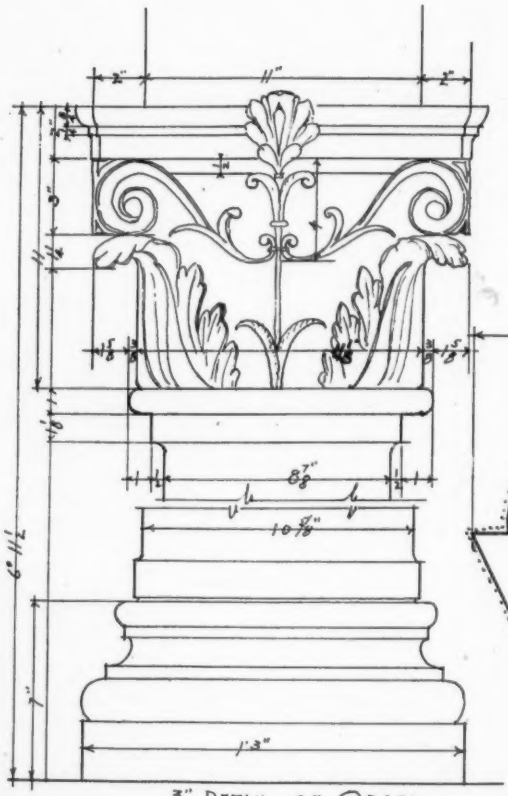
PHOTOGRAPHED, MEASURED AND DRAWN BY ROBERT M. BLACKALL, THIRTY-FIFTH HOLDER OF THE ROTCH TRAVELING SCHOLARSHIP, ASSISTED IN MEASUREMENTS BY LEON KEACH, HOLDER OF MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP.

XUM

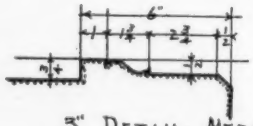


½" ELEVATION.

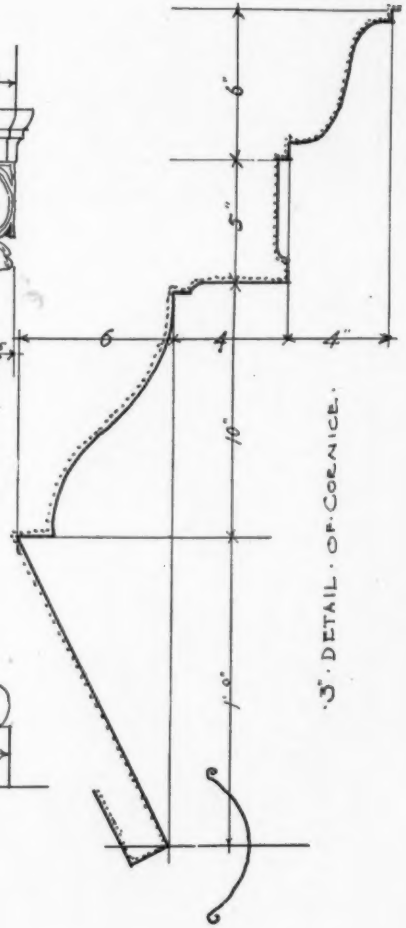
Cloisters are 18 Bays long and 13 Bays Wide.



3" DETAIL OF ORDER.



3" DETAIL MEDALLION MOULD.

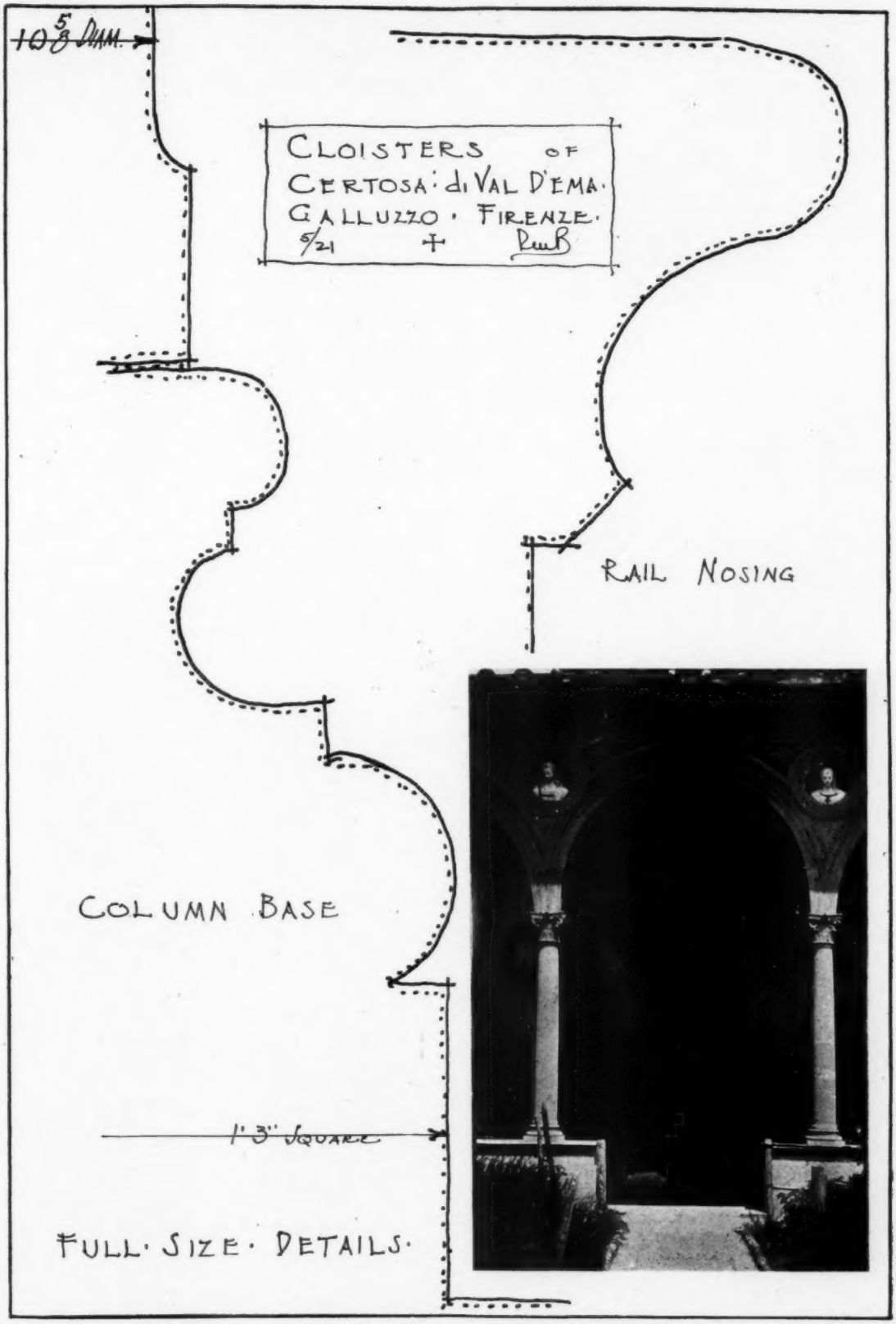


3" DETAIL OF CORNICE.

CLOISTERS OF CERTOSA DI VAL D'EMO, GALLUZZO, ITALY

MEASURED AND DRAWN BY ROBERT M. BLACKALL 35TH HOLDER OF THE ROTCH TRAVELING SCHOLARSHIP

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, SERIES II.
FRENCH AND ITALIAN DETAILS



MEASURED AND DRAWN BY ROBERT M. BLACKALL, 35TH HOLDER OF ROTCH TRAVELING SCHOLARSHIP

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, SERIES II.
FRENCH AND ITALIAN DETAILS

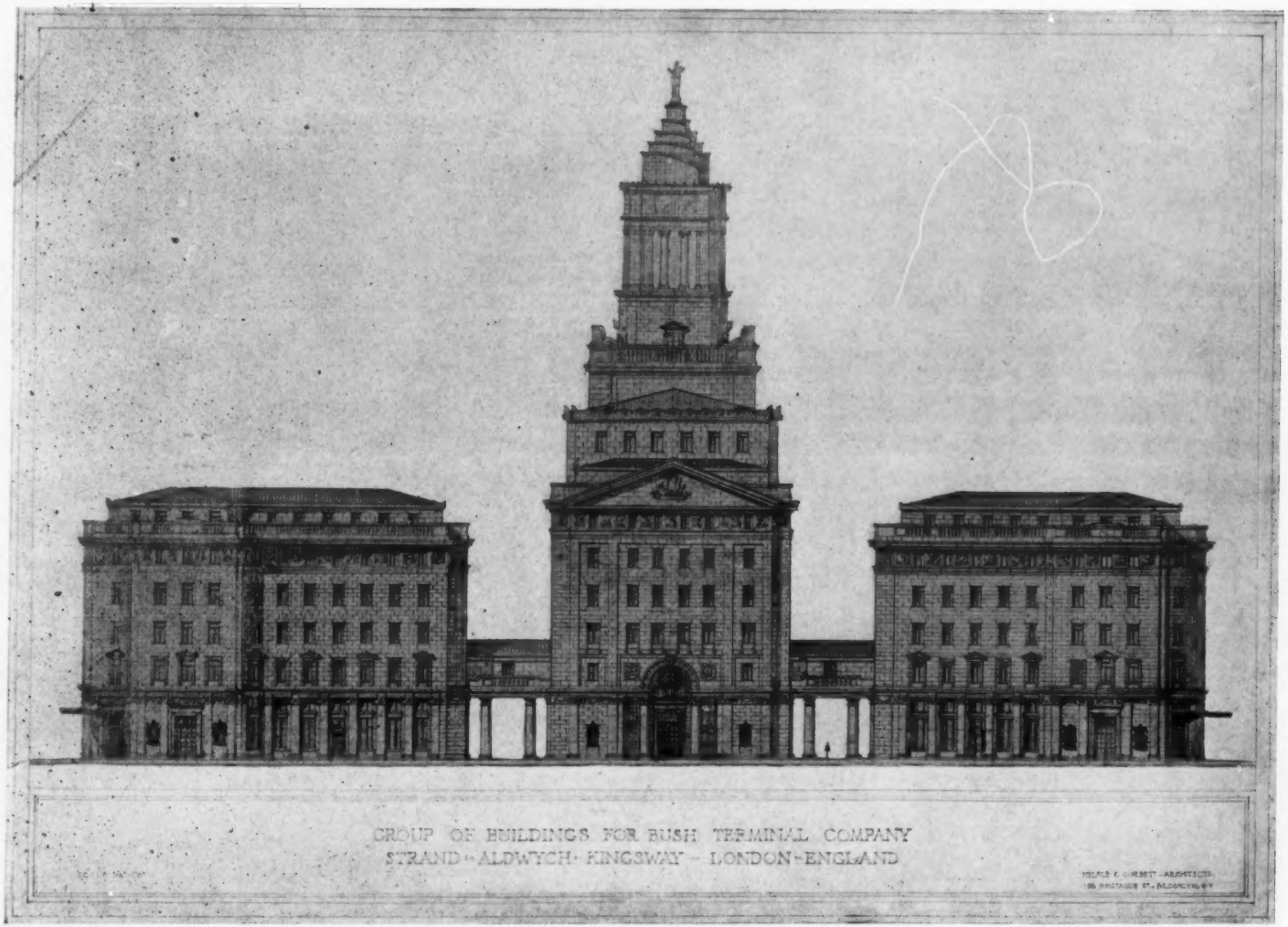
XUM

SURVEY MAP OF PORTION OF LONDON, SURROUNDING BUSH BUILDINGS, SHOWING THE NEW STREETS OF ALDWYCH AND KINGSWAY AND THE WIDENED STRAND

This map also shows the location of the tower as a focal point visible for considerable distance along the Strand to the West, Fleet Street to the East and the full length of Kingsway to the North

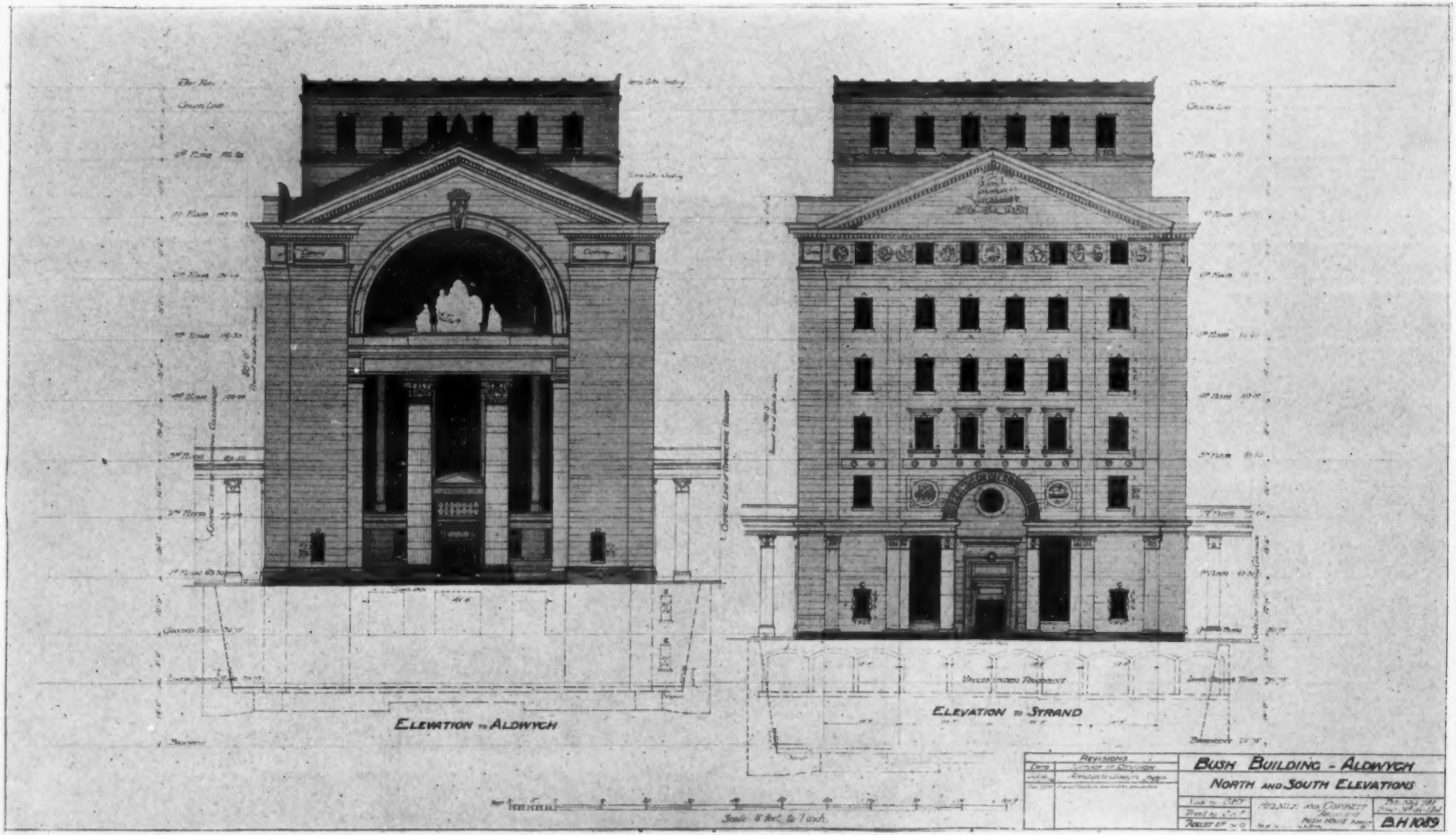
THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

XUM



COMPLETE STRAND ELEVATION
THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

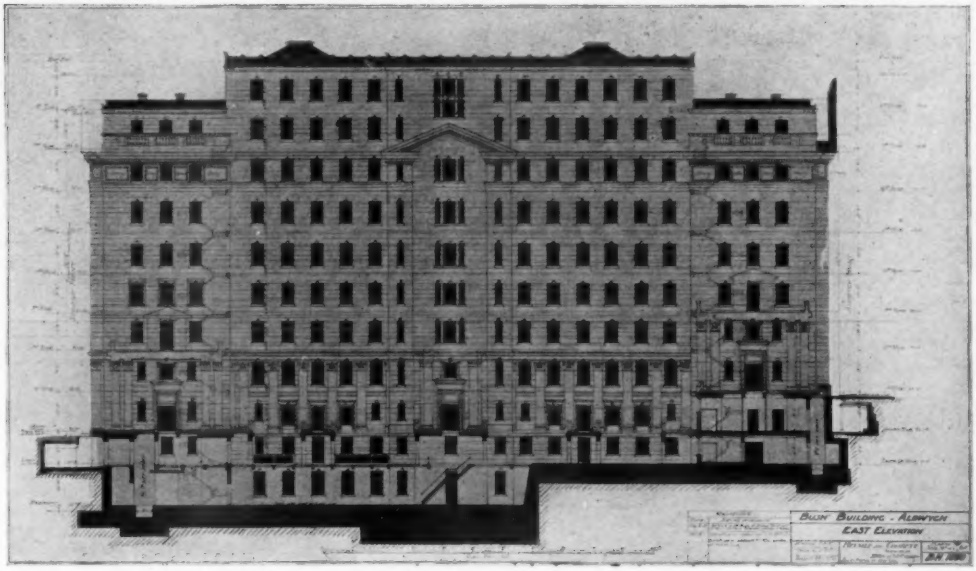
COMPLETE ALDWYCH ELEVATION
THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



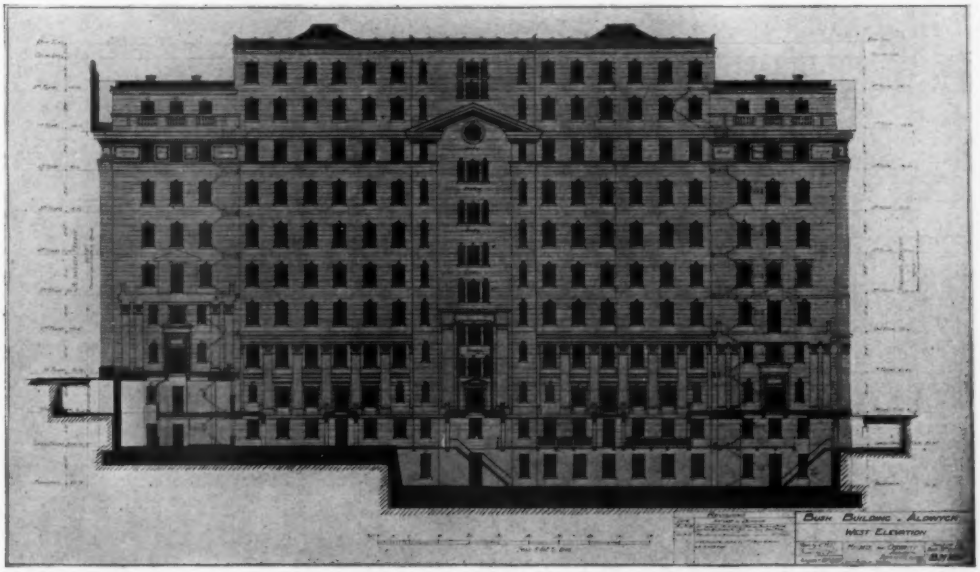
ELEVATIONS—ALDWYCH AND STRAND

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



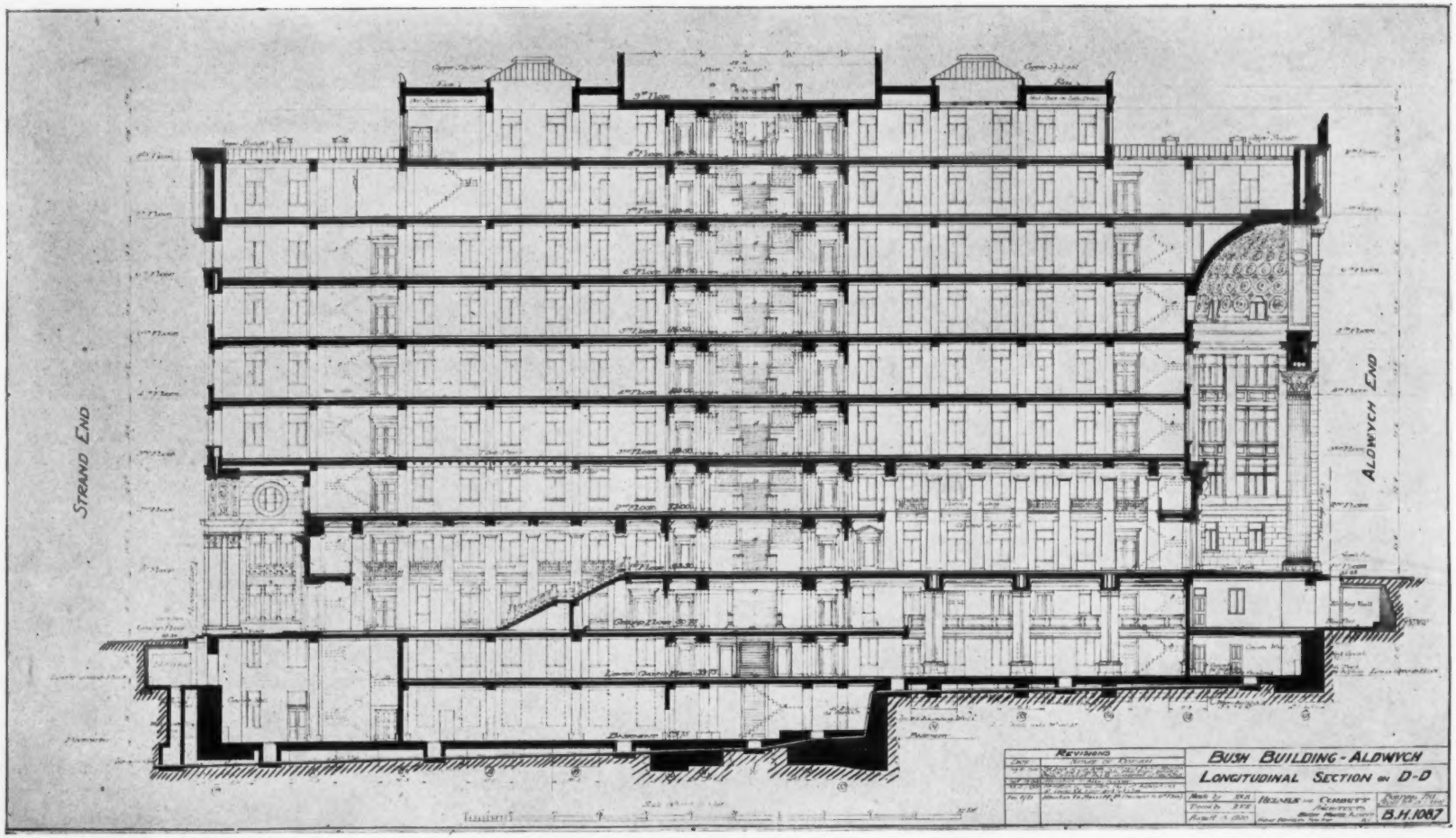
EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION OF CENTRAL BUILDING

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

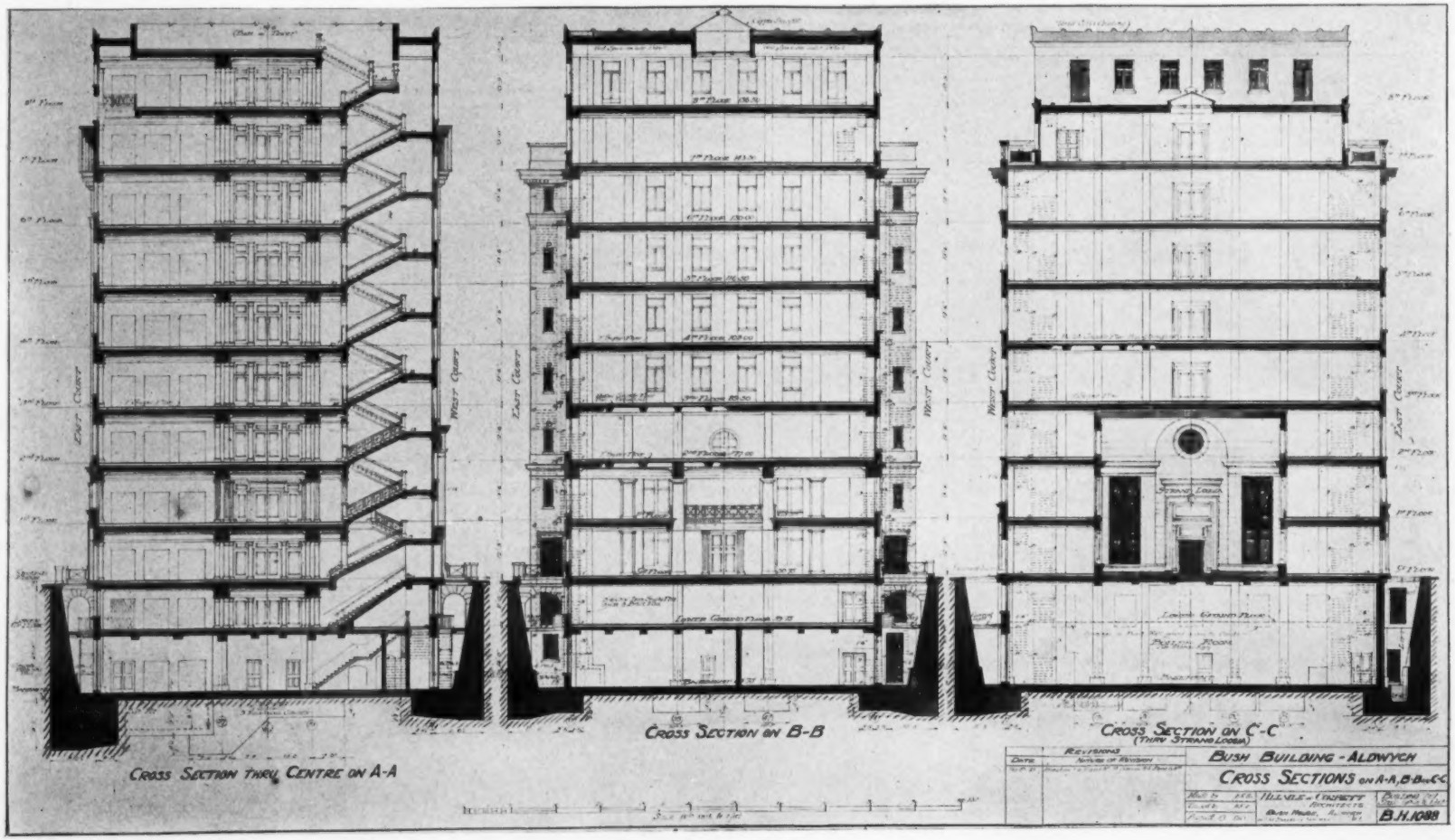
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



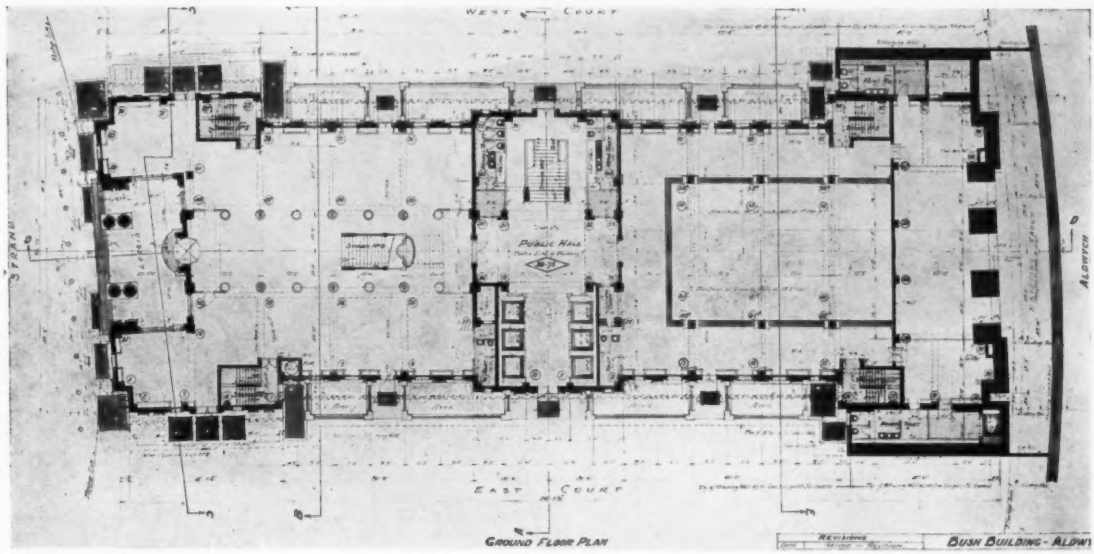
LONGITUDINAL SECTION, SHOWING DIFFERENCE IN LEVEL BETWEEN STRAND AND ALDWYCH END OF BUILDING, WITH TWO-STORY CONNECTING ARCADE AND SMALL AUDITORIUM UNDER ALDWYCH END.

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

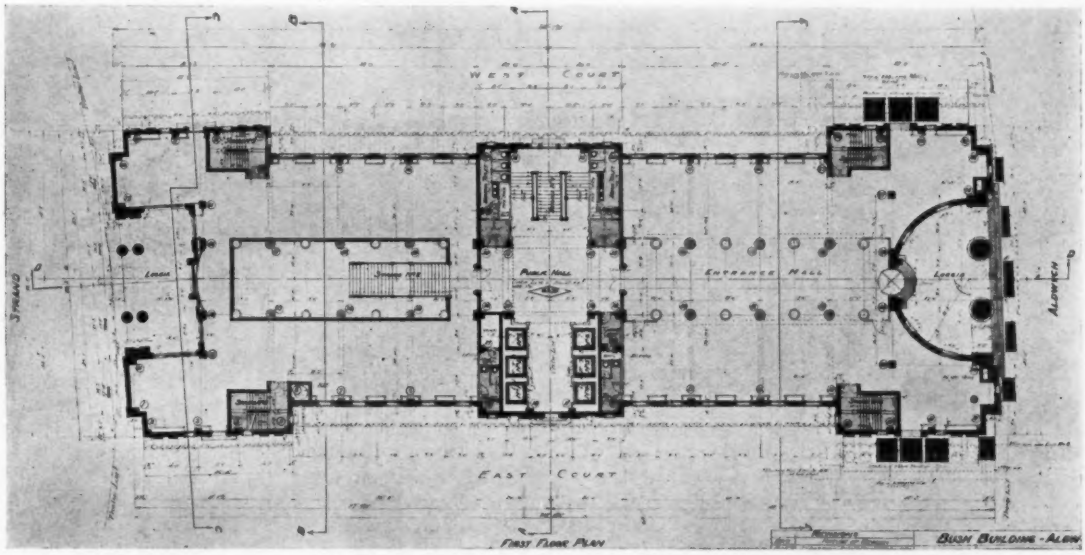
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*


CROSS SECTION THRU CENTRE ON A-A
CROSS SECTION ON B-B
CROSS SECTION ON C-C
(THRU STRAND LOBBY)
BUSH BUILDING - ALDWYCH
CROSS SECTIONS ON A-A, B-B & C-C
B.H.1098

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



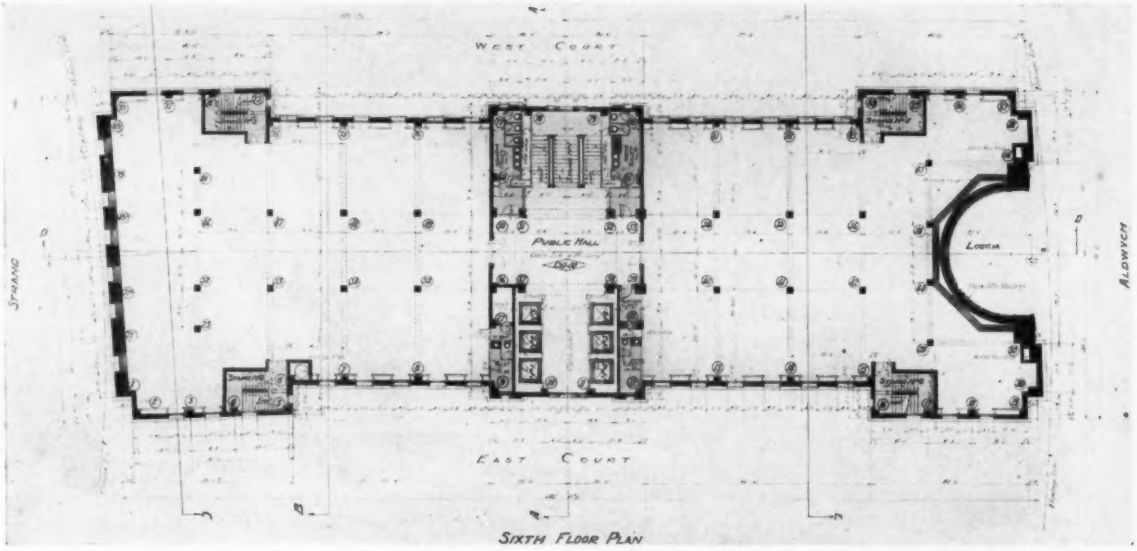
PLAN AT LEVEL OF STRAND, SHOWING STRAND ENTRANCE, LOGGIA AND BALCONY FLOOR OF SMALL AUDITORIUM AT NORTH END OF BUILDING.



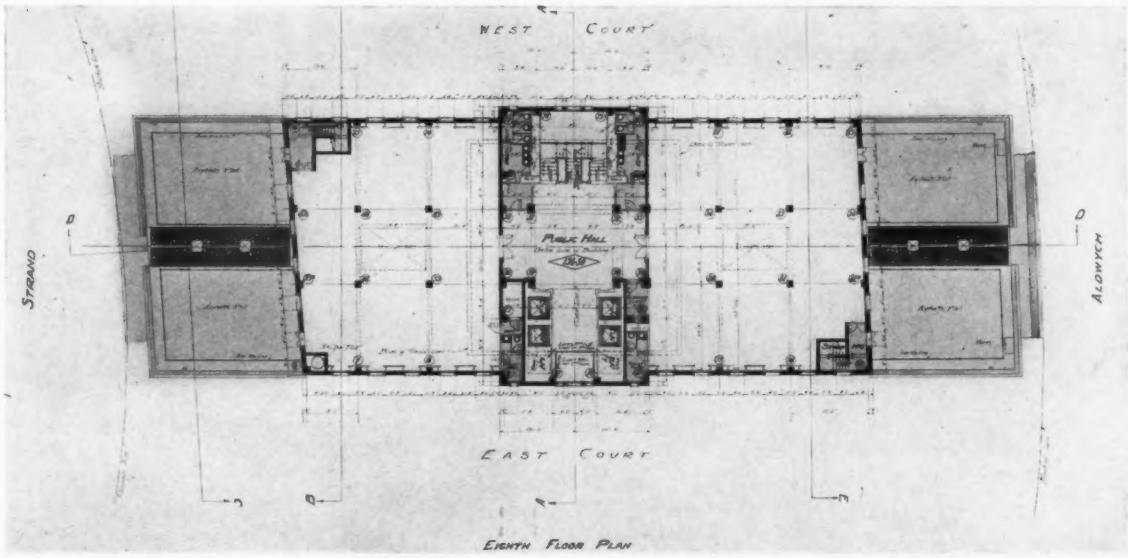
PLAN AT LEVEL OF ALDWYCH, SHOWING THE LARGE L OGGIA WHICH FORMS THE VISTA FOR KINGSWAY

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



TYPICAL UPPER FLOOR PLAN



ROOF STORY, SHOWING REQUIRED SETBACKS

THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON, ENGLAND

HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

sewing room, domestic science department, etc., on the second floor.

An attempt has been made to seclude the Junior Department so that the youngsters may enter from West Kinney Street, passing the physical director's office and going up to their rooms without entering the main portion of the building. From a mezzanine level easy access is provided to the locker and educational rooms.

The gymnasium, swimming pool and lockers form a separate and easily controlled unit. Communication may be had from the lockers to the pool and gymnasium without entering the public hall. A running track is provided in the gymnasium and the showers are on the same level as the floors of the swimming pool and gymnasium. The pool is built on ground.

On the second floor will be eight educational rooms of various sizes and a reading room off the hall with plenty of outside light. A dumbwaiter from the kitchen will run to this floor, so that the rooms may be used for entertaining.

On the ground floor will be a cafeteria, easily accessible from the exterior and interior.

The Menace of Fire to Our Historical Structures

IT is gratifying to note that there is an awakening of public sentiment both in Philadelphia and Boston, as to the menace of destruction by fire of buildings of the most sacred of historical association.

Further, it is good to learn that the daily press of those cities is vigorously discussing these matters and by well-written editorials, seeking to arouse the people to the danger of a loss that would be irreparable and be felt by every man, woman and child in this country.

The Philadelphia *Inquirer* states in a recent issue:

Whatever needs to be done to protect Independence Hall and the connecting buildings from danger by fire should be done at once. Their present condition is attracting attention in other parts of the country. For this shrine of national patriotism is, normally speaking, the property of the whole nation. The loss of it would be irreparable. There would be swift and bitter condemnation of Philadelphia were such a calamity to happen. The duty of averting it, so far as that is humanly possible, should not longer be delayed. * * *

Valuable paintings, which are deteriorating rapidly and which will be completely ruined if the work of restoration is not undertaken, are stored there. The exterior has a battered look which shames the bronze tablet recording its honorable history, and crowding it at the rear is a comparatively modern building which does not belong to the group.

Had these dignified and beautiful specimens of Colonial architecture no sacred associations, it would be a duty to preserve them. In the circumstances neglect is a crime. Let it not be said that the city which holds the birthplace of American liberty is faithless to her trust.

Boston, whose proud boast it is that it is "the cradle of American liberty," is much worried, as it has right to be, over the safety of its historic State House. The *Transcript* urges the city to awaken to a realizing sense of the danger of fire to this fine old building. It states editorially:

The Brooklyn Eagle sees in the flames that swept through our Old State House a picture in which that ancient edifice appears as the storage place of priceless documents because Yankee thrift has not sanctioned the expenditure of money necessary to put them in fireproof vaults. "A fire in the Old State House in Boston, built in 1748," says the Brooklyn paper, "risked thousand of priceless documents. Massachusetts is rich enough to afford fireproof vaults. It's Yankee thrift that seeks to make a historic structure serve as a storehouse and thus kill two birds with one stone."

This is not a correct statement of the case. The rich collections of the Bostonian Society are not in the Old State House merely for storage. They have been placed there because it makes an appropriate setting for these reminders of the life of days long gone by, and because they, in their turn, by infusing the ancient structure with the atmosphere of Colonial times serve to enhance its interest for the home folk and for the thousands of visitors who come to it from all parts of the country as to a shrine.

That being the case, there remains the question of changes in the construction of the building to safeguard it, as far as may be possible, from the danger of fire. It might, of course, be made as fireproof as a modern office building. As the building has been restored, with its sweeping staircase of wood and its wood finish and paneling, it is in appearance the building known to the fathers. To fireproof it would necessarily rob it of its essential characteristics as a monument to the storied past.

But the Old State House may be guarded against fire to a very much greater degree than it has been in the past. It is a matter which demands earnest and expert attention.

The hundreds of millions of dollars that annually "go up in smoke" in this country are of sufficient reproach to us, but they represent a loss that money can repair.

To have even one of these fine old historical buildings lost through fire, the result of negligence or improper precaution, would be a national disgrace we might never live down.

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DEPARTMENT of SPECIFICATIONS

Office Equipment

IN previous issues there has been a discussion of the general scope of the work of a specification writer and of the education, training, experience and mental attributes that are essential to a successful accomplishment of specification writing. Next in order in the general scheme of specifications comes the office equipment that forms a basis for the composition of the written document.

This equipment will consist of the files of catalogs and specification data, a well selected library of reference books, an outline and checking list, a master specification and a file of specifications that have been proven to be satisfactory or that have been corrected to remedy faults found during construction work. The complete set of drawings for which a specification is to be written must be considered a part of the equipment under discussion as it naturally forms one of the essential bases of specifications.

The files for catalogs and specification data should be of the vertical type, letter size, i. e., eight and one-half by eleven inches. This size will receive, without folding, the majority of catalogs, which fortunately are being prepared in accordance with the well-established recommendations of The American Institute of Architects.

The method of filing catalogs must be given consideration, the essential requirements being ease of filing and quickness in finding a certain catalog. The system to be used must permit of expansion without disorganizing the entire file and without introducing complications that will tend to discourage its intelligent use.

In general there are two systems of filing catalogs that seem to give general satisfaction. One is the classification recommended by The American Institute of Architects, while the other consists of an alphabetical arrangement, according to the name of the manufacturer. In either case it is necessary to make sure that catalogs containing several classes of items that are not related, so far as their use is concerned, are cross-indexed in some simple fashion. If the alphabetical system is used this cross-indexing becomes one of the steps necessary in maintaining control of the files and in indexing the matter to be filed the separation of products cataloged automatically will be cared for in the proper manner.

THE catalog file should be made and maintained as complete as possible, even though it seems unlikely that the practice of the office will require some of the information. This is especially necessary in those offices that enjoy a general practice, while even in those offices whose practice is somewhat specialized the remote possibility for use of a catalog may be a pressing necessity at a time when the desired catalog cannot be obtained without a wait of several days. The catalogs must be current issues and care must be given the weeding out of obsolete catalogs.

As the catalog file is, because of its purpose, restricted to certain classes of printed matter, it will be found that some data they contain should be filed elsewhere than with the catalogs. It then becomes necessary to plan a specification data file in which may be placed pages having to do with specifications of articles represented in catalogs, together with the numerous standard and recommended specifications and other matter of an informative nature that properly do not belong with catalogs.

The specification data file should be of the same size as the catalog file and should be arranged or classified according to the subject matter. In this file the alphabetical classification should govern as that is the most natural scheme of filing. It will be found that subject classification can be carried to extremes, making the number of file pockets or subdivisions entirely too great for a simplified arrangement. It is simple to arrange the classifications in master groups with whatever sub-master groups appear to make for flexibility and ease in finding the filed papers.

This data file should receive all specifications of manufacturers, historical data, standard specifications of recognized worth, recommended practices or rules of the various trade associations and labor unions and all other matter that will be of value as references when preparing the specifications.

THERE should be included in the specification data file, among other things, the following:

Standard specifications of The American Society for Testing Materials that have to do with building construction.

Standard specifications adopted by:

The American Society of Civil Engineers.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

The American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

The American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers.

The American Concrete Institute, and such other professional organizations as have published standard or recommended specifications.

The Specification Manual published by THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT.

The Structural Service Book published by The American Institute of Architects.

Specifications, rules and regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters.

Specifications, rules and regulations of the Underwriters Laboratories.

Treatises, reports and other data published by the Bureau of Standards at Washington, D. C.

This list will give an indication of the contents of a specification data file and it will be found to be of invaluable assistance if it is kept up-to-date, as all-inclusive as possible and if the specification writer familiarizes himself with its contents.

It is, of course, quite essential that everything filed in both the catalog and specification data file be thoroughly familiar to the specification writer, otherwise he will find himself at times utterly at a loss for information urgently needed, but unavailable while within his reach. Thorough indexing and cross-indexing will be of assistance.

A well selected library of technical books and the larger catalogs will complete the general information equipment. Text books and handbooks covering all branches of engineering, building materials, equipment and their correlative subjects will be of assistance at times. A number of these books may contain matter that duplicates items in the specification data file, but those things filed will be more readily replaced by current reprints or new publications. This library should be studied by the specification writer and additions should be made as new books of merit are published. A recently published two-volume Handbook of Building Constructin by Hool and Johnson and a large number of collaborators is representative of the kind of books this library should contain.

AN outline and checking list, for the preparation of specifications and the coincident checking of drawings must be prepared carefully so that it may be of assistance and serve its purpose in a proper manner. An orderly preparation of specifications cannot be accomplished without the aid of an outline as it will be found to be an organizer of the skeleton work so necessary to have in mind while studying the drawings and planning mentally the matter that is to be included and that which is to be excluded from the specifications.

The outline should be made as comprehensive as possible, each step or operation in every branch or sub-division of the work being arranged in logical sequence so that the mind will function in orderly fashion when studying the problem. A hap-hazard scheme of specification writing usually is at fault when an outline has not been used and there is no more simple organizer of the function of composing specifications than a thoroughly well-prepared outline.

In checking over the drawings, either while they are still in process or after completion, it is necessary that an orderly method, represented by the checking list, be followed faithfully. The checking list should be prepared after the outline has been completed and will naturally have included many items not appearing in the specification outline, items that the drawings only can explain or indicate clearly.

The master specification consisting, as it will, of all standard paragraphs and of paragraphs of particular specifications covering, perhaps, some unusual phase or method of construction, will be as comprehensive as the practice of the office will permit. However, it is advisable to resort to research and investigation during odd moments to add to it paragraphs that will cover such ordinary and extraordinary phases of construction and equipment work as may reasonably be expected to be of use in the future work.

By using a loose-leaf book of standard letter size sheets on which the master specification paragraphs are to be pasted it will be found quite a simple means of permitting additions or re-arrangements without destroying the desired sequence. The paragraphs will, of course, be arranged in sequence and numbered in accordance with the specification outline. The numbering of the paragraphs will facilitate their location when they are referred to in the preparation of specifications or at any other time. When new paragraphs are inserted between consecutively numbered paragraphs the decimal system can be resorted to as this will permit of any number of additions without destroying the effectiveness of the numbering system adopted.

IN the preparation of the master specification extreme caution should be exercised in the text of the paragraphs, eliminating those words, phrases or clauses that refer to the particular work for which they were originally preferred. If the nature of these references is such that similar uses will be made of these portions of the text it will be a great convenience to leave sufficient blank space, with several question marks prominently displayed, to indicate that some words, phrases or clauses are to be added in order to complete the thought. It is to be understood that the flexibility and value of the master specification depends entirely on the thought and skill with which it is prepared. It is quite possible that the individual requirements of each specification writer will necessitate different methods in the arrangement of the standard paragraphs but the fundamentals of all master specifications, as given here, should remain the same.

The file of old specifications that have been used in construction work should be considered supplementary to the master specification. These specifications will have passed through the grief usually attendant on construction work and their value proved,

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either to the credit or discredit of their author. While work is under construction this file, together with the master specification should be kept in mind and whenever ambiguities, errors, omissions or the countless other faults of a specification are developed proper notations should be made in the specification in this file and the master specification paragraph corrected or the error indicated in such a way that the future use of this section will not cause a duplication of the trouble. If this care is given the old specification file and the master specification the specification writer will soon realize their value because of the absence of disputes.

It is unfortunate that architects do not find it possible to exchange specifications of merit in the manner pursued by many attorneys who take pride in having extra copies of their briefs printed for distribution among their friends who may be interested in the arguments set forth. It is a pleasant custom, of great benefit to the legal profession and an earnest of friendly relations. It would be gratifying if architects would foster such a custom and it is to be hoped that The American Specification Institute will develop a means for the interchange of specifications that have been well written.

THE drawings may properly be considered last in a discussion of the "tools" that are of use in the preparation of specifications. The methods used in their preparation have a great deal to do with the scheme to be followed in the composition of the specifications. As a general rule there are two classes of drawings, the classification, of course, being based on the care with which they have been prepared. If the specification writer has charge of the preparation of drawings it will be possible for him to consider them in relation to the specifications and the responsibility for their correlation will be his. If, however, the drawings have been prepared without the jurisdiction of the specification writer, it becomes of increasing importance that there be a clear understanding of the two classifications of drawings.

Drawings may be prepared either as complete documents, thoroughly detailed and with all conditions that may arise having been given due consideration or they may be prepared in a somewhat hap-hazard and incomplete manner with the indicated understanding that large scale and full size details will be furnished later when time will permit. It is not to be understood that the second method should be condemned but it does bring up the question as to whether sufficient study has been given the various conditions the drawings present so as to enable the contractor who bids on the work to understand in full detail the expenses that his estimate must include. It is quite impossible, at times, to write the specifications so that the future desires of the one preparing the drawings can be anticipated with accuracy sufficient to provide an equitable basis for the contractor's estimate.

When either of these two methods of preparing drawings is used it will be essential to show, by a well-studied and thoroughly understood schedule of material indications, either cross-hatching or shading, of what the component structural and finishing parts consist. Since blueprints are in universal use now, great care should be given the study of these indications, particularly the usage local custom has given them, in order to avoid misunderstandings.

Notes that are to be placed on the drawings should not be located on the sheets indiscriminately or in a disconnected manner. It is customary to have blank spaces at the bottom or side of the sheets and the notes in most cases can be arranged in some logical method in these blank spaces. There are some notes that, by their nature, must be positioned close to certain parts of the drawings but, nevertheless, an attempt should be made to keep notes in a group by themselves as much as possible. As mentioned previously, the specification writer must adjust the conditions that surround his specification work to meet the requirements of the drawings and he is fortunate if he has sufficient control to have them so written and placed as to offer the best cooperation with the specifications. However, it is always necessary that the drawings be taken as prepared and submitted to him for his attention and it may be well that drawings not quite up to the usual standard of excellence sometimes be given him in order that his mental attitude be confronted with some conditions out of the ordinary.

It is rare that the drawings are completed to the last detail before the specifications are to be started and it is necessary that the specification writer watch the progress of the work from its inception, making notes from time to time as points requiring special care or investigation are brought to his attention. When the drawings are commenced it will be found to be quite a source of help later on if a schedule of materials, finishes, etc., is prepared in rough shape for the guidance of the drafting department. This schedule can be brought to a more complete state while the drawings are in progress, the man in charge of the work and the specification writer cooperating in order to effect a perfect understanding of all details. The attention thus given to the work while it is on the boards will tend to fix in the specification writer's mind the details of the work as he must know them, although this close contact will bring up one question of importance that must not be neglected.

This important phase of the work at this stage is that the specification writer must not become so saturated, as it were, with the details of the drawings that he cannot approach them in a certain unfamiliar manner when the specifications are to be started. In order that the drawings may be checked in a thorough manner it is quite necessary that they be approached from the standpoint of what might be

(*Concluded on page 63*)

CONSTRUCTION FEATURES IN THE BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

IN the construction of the Bush Buildings, London, 30,000 cubic yards of earth were excavated for foundations and basement. A clause in the specifications of more than passing interest to Americans, related to the ownership of objects of interest and value to antiquarians and archeologists, which might be found during the excavation. This, by the way, is a clause inserted generally in specifications for excavating work in European cities. In the Bush Buildings excavation, in which the bulk of the work was done by means of steam shovels, grab buckets and drag line scrapers, there existed little opportunity for scrutinizing the material. No finds of interest to souvenir hunters were recorded, although the site is a historic one.

The work below street level was all done in the famous blue clay of London, and it was necessary to build heavy retaining walls around the site. These walls do not serve as foundations, their sole purpose being to prevent the clay from flowing into the basement. A trench was dug around the site to a depth of 40 feet, at its deepest part, 640 feet long and 16 feet wide. London clay being exceedingly plastic, all excavation of the trench was performed by hand. The spades used are long and narrow. specially designed for this material, and are dipped in water after each cut. The trench is excavated to a depth of three or four feet and then lined on both sides with vertical "shuttering," held in place top and bottom by longitudinal "wallings," which in turn are kept the proper distance apart by screws and blocking. The excavation of trenches in London clay is a costly affair in which no detail can be neglected, for it possesses the flowing quality characteristic of bread dough.

REINFORCEMENT IN COLUMN FOOTINGS SHOWING HOOK ANCHORAGE—BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

Sidewalk Vaults

Reference to the accompanying figures shows the sidewalk vaults constructed by the municipality at the time the streets were improved. The floors of the vaults are at about one-half the total basement depth, it being necessary to put new foundation piers under the posts which support the inner edge of each walk. The old sidewalks were not destroyed during the progress of the work, the space between them and the building being specially treated after the framework reached sidewalk level.

Walls and Footings

The figures show plainly the wall sections, which are very heavy, an indication that they are of the gravity type without reinforcement. The footings were reinforced, serving to distribute the load of the walls with resultant pressure, as well as to carry the exterior building columns, or "stanchions" as they are called in Great Britain. Under some of the columns the footings were separate from the "L" shaped wall footings, as shown on the footing plan of the South Portion, and in the figure containing cross-sections. The construction of the wall is also shown clearly in the figures containing longi-

DETAIL VIEW OF EXCAVATION METHODS USED FOR END WALLS OF BASEMENT BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON. HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

GENERAL VIEW OF SITE LOOKING DOWN KINGSWAY
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON. HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

tudinal and cross sections of the building. The walls and footings are of machine mixed concrete.

The reinforcement of the footings consisted of plain round rods. The projecting wall footings carrying columns were reinforced as cantilevers under columns, the reinforcing being in the top, as shown in the first small figure. All rods were bent in round hook form for end anchorage, a method characteristice of European practice in reinforced concrete. The four figures showing reinforced concrete footings serve to give an idea of their size, as well as of arrangement of reinforcing.

The "Dumpling"

After the outer trenches were dug by hand in three

REINFORCEMENT IN COLUMN FOOTINGS
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

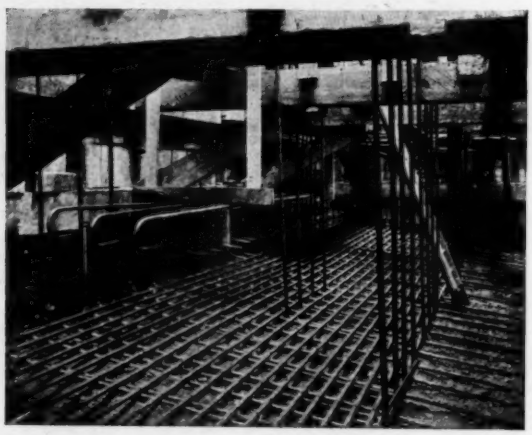
or four foot stages, the footings were put in and the retaining walls poured in heights of three to four feet, trench braces and "shuttering" being removed ahead of each section. Finally the walls reached their full height and enclosed the "dumpling." The "dumpling" is everything within the surrounding walls and the American English language contains no word so good as this British English term for the material to be excavated on a building lot.

The yardage of hand excavated material was a large proportion of the whole, because of the "L" footings under the walls. The "dumpling" was excavated by steam shovels, grabs and scrapers. Before the war labor was paid small wages in England and contractors seldom found it profitable to use excavating machinery freely. Since the war there has been a distinct tendency towards the use of labor-saving machinery in contracting operations, not alone to keep down cost but to overcome a real shortage of untrained manual labor.

The "General View of Site Looking Down Kingsway" shows some of the walls completed and the ex-

REINFORCEMENT IN COLUMN FOOTINGS
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

cavation of the dumpling well under way. A following view is from a photograph taken when the walls were completed and the excavation finished, with reinforcement placed for all column footings. Some of the structural steel is in position up to the level of the ground floor.

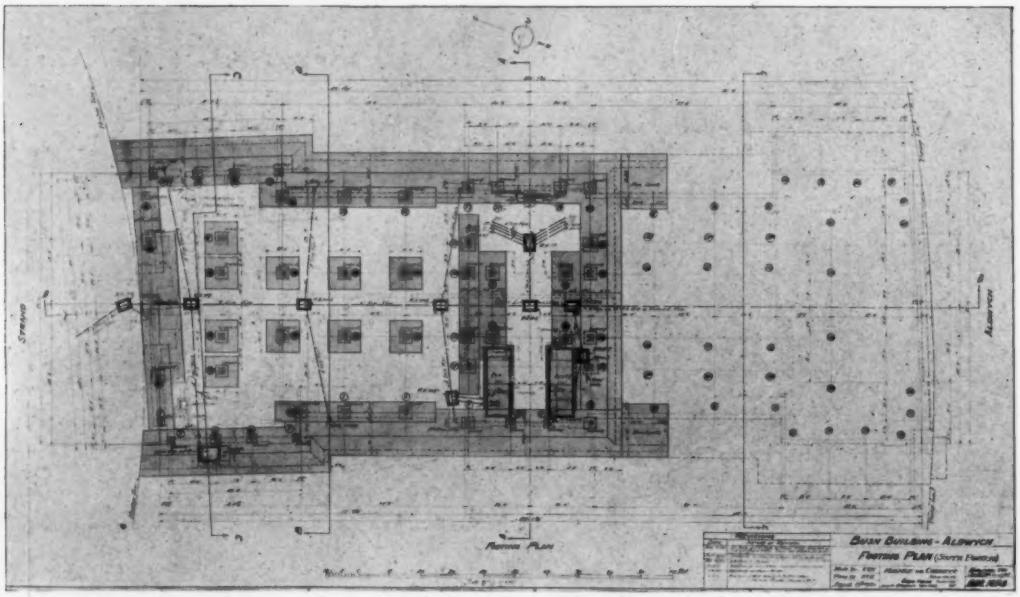


REINFORCEMENT IN COLUMN FOOTINGS
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

Steel Framing

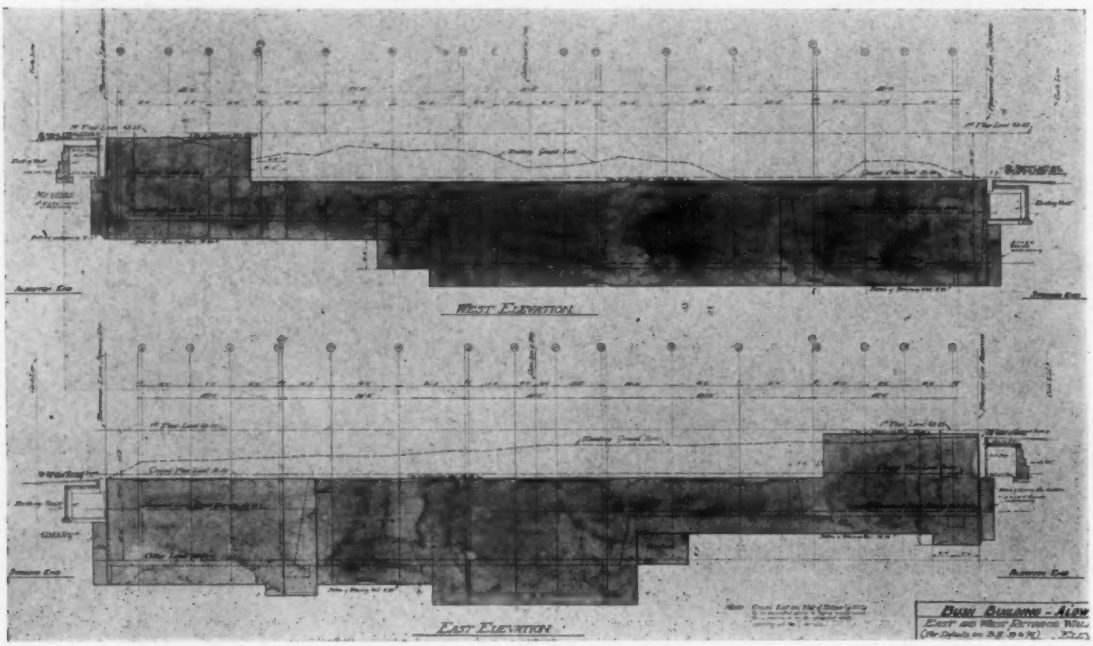
The view of the steel work was taken from a point where it could show to good advantage the framing for the two-story entrance hall and the heavy double girders over auditorium in the basement. There is

RETAINING WALLS COMPLETED AND COLUMN FOOTINGS UNDER WAY
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON
HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*



FOOTING PLAN OF SOUTH PORTION SHOWING DRAINAGE SYSTEM
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

nothing out of the ordinary about the steel framing. The proportions of the structure are such that wind could be practically ignored, except as it may affect the tower. The girders over the auditorium in the basement carry four columns and their loads from the ground floor to the roof, and are the only things to relieve the plain every day character of the steel work. An idea of the loads on the girders may be



ELEVATIONS OF EAST AND WEST RETAINING WALLS
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

VIEW LOOKING SOUTH SHOWING FRAMING FOR TWO-STORY ENTRANCE HALL AND HEAVY GIRDERS OVER AUDITORIUM IN BASEMENT
BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON. HELMLE & CORBETT, *ARCHITECTS*

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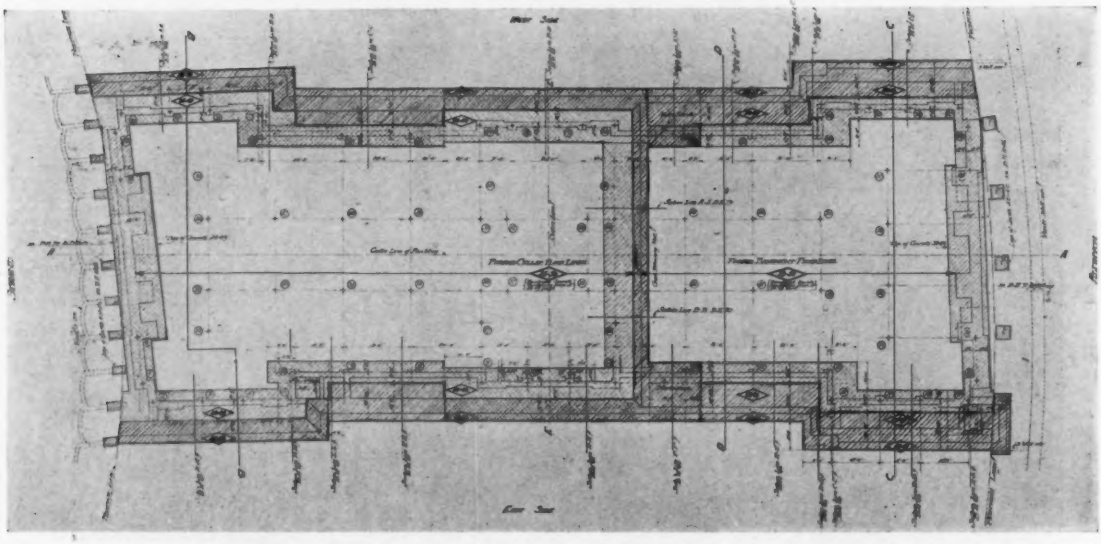
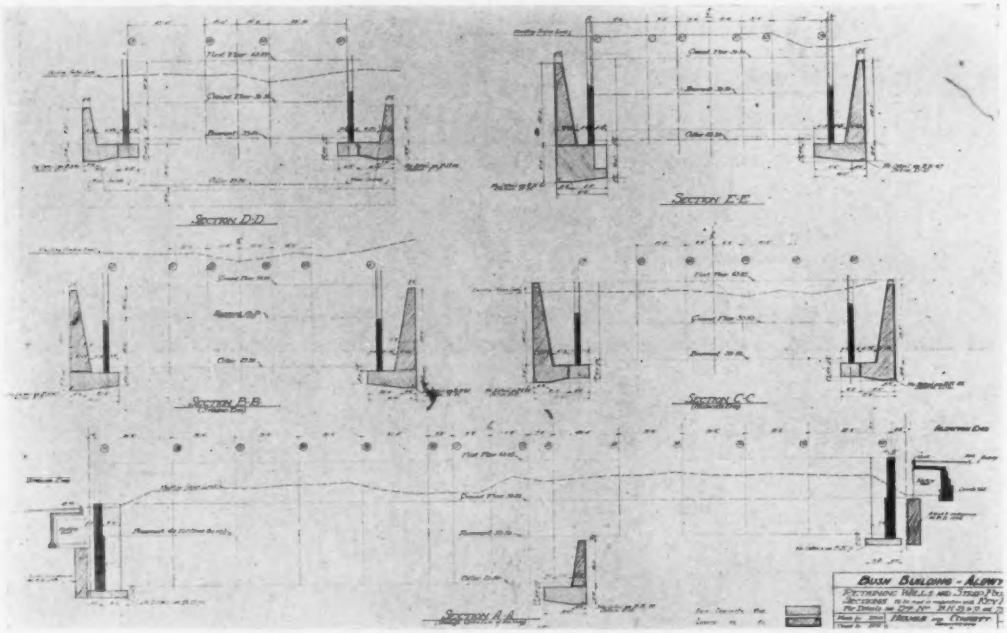


PLAN OF RETAINING WALLS, BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

had by looking at the cover plates, which show plainly in the illustration. The main girders are each composed of two box girders somewhat shallow in proportion to the span, for it was necessary to obtain all the head room possible.

A number of studies were made for towers. The building was practically complete before the type of tower was decided upon, so the steel designer was forced to design for the tower which created the worst conditions under wind. This required close co-operation between the architect and engineer, for the action of wind on the tower is felt on the foundations and all intermediate framing. The design of the tower could not be changed materially after the steel was fabricated.



CROSS-SECTIONS OF RETAINING WALLS, BUSH BUILDINGS, LONDON

REVIEW of the CONSTRUCTION FIELD

With Reports of Special Correspondents in Regional Centers

The Opportunity for Home Builders

THE process of deflating credit and getting the United States back to a fairly normal condition financially is practically accomplished. Thanks to the Federal Reserve Bank System the matter has been arranged in an orderly manner with no more distress than was unavoidable. Now the breathing spell has come, common to all such periods of readjustment and the public is awaiting signs of when and in what direction revival will begin. Fortunately for general business the lull in the summer, a season when trading is dullest, but unfortunately for the building business which counts summer as a harvest time.

In all periods of business depression the revival comes when somebody begins to supply pressing necessities. In the United States there exists a pressing need for homes. It has been a fruitful source of discussion in the public press so we all know, or believe we know, that because of the concentration of the nation on the business of war 1,500,000 fewer houses were built than would have been built in normal times. Add to this the loss by fire and the number of homes needed runs close to 2,000,000. Depreciation and lack of proper repairs add to the volume of work to be done. There is no doubt at all that in a building revival lies our best hopes for a general revival of business.

Immediate action is needed and the most important thing to do is to de-centralize the loaning power, now concentrated in our banks. This power at present is paralyzed by government needs and is forced to demand usurious rates for the small funds it has remaining for commercial needs. There must be some more inflation of credit but along sound lines. The revelations of the Lockwood investigation as conducted by Samuel Untermeyer showed the lengths to which men felt they had to go to obtain returns on money intrusted to their care. It also showed another most gratifying thing, the gameness of the American home builder when he felt he simply must own his home and free himself from the exactions of landlords, not all of whom are profiteers from choice.

THE Lockwood committee proposed the repeal of laws against usury for sums in excess of $10,000. The repeal of the usury laws will certainly act to bring into the market a great many individuals ready to loan small sums at rates they cannot at present obtain. In the long run the benefits will be great but the country cannot await legislative action. Action is needed this year so the building revival will begin by the letting of contracts this winter The most practical method suggested to date is a recourse to co-operative methods such as the people once possessed in building and loan associations before they were absorbed by banking institutions. History is said to repeat itself and building and loan associations grew out of the need for loans to finance home building at a time when banks had to obtain large returns.

Organized labor is friendly, towards the co-operative idea. In fact reports from labor conventions indicate a friendliness of an enthusiastic nature. Material dealers are said to favor concessions in price to all co-operative enterprises, and all that is needed is a start. This could begin by the organization of co-operative banks. They have learned through Mr. Untermeyer just how much men can be made to pay for money and how to get this price without violating the laws against usury. Co-operative banking institutions would be in high favor with depositors for their profits would give them better returns on their savings than they now obtain from banks of the usual type. Borrowers should be limited to depositors who will use the money to build homes and speculative builders should be discouraged. Liberal commissions and high interest will be paid readily for all profits will ultimately accrue to the borrowers themselves, because they are depositors.

The co-operative banks will be needed first, then co-operative purchasing agencies and co-operative contracting associations of workmen. The first effect will be a withdrawal of funds from regular banks to get the co-operative banks started, but as orders flow into the factories the credit machinery will begin once more to operate. It is possible to have again and that very soon, a period of large profits, high wages, high production, accompanied by falling prices as one after another all industries feel the impulse of accelerated demand. All that is needed is to start money flowing so the frozen reservoirs of credit may be thawed out. Co-operation without interference from legislation should bring it about. All necessary legislation is now on the books and the men who have most at stake, the architects and building contractors, should be the leaders in each community. The financial situation today is such that only a start is needed.

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THE BUILDING SITUATION in CHICAGO and the MIDDLE WEST

(*Special Correspondence to* THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT)

CHICAGO—Now that everyone has kissed and made up and gone back to work pending the decision of Judge Landis, the immediate building future has assumed a much more cheering aspect than for these many weary months just past. His Majesty, the carpenter alone, so it is said, refuses to consider himself bound by the Landis peace bonds but has returned to labor with the rest of his fellow craftsmen. Although more than a week has elapsed since Judge Landis was appointed arbitrator, he has not intimated what his decision will be. However, those in the architectural and building fields, in a position to know, express themselves as confident that the present cessation of hostilities will be permanent and that conditions will improve rapidly from this time on.

The effects of an immediate resumption of activity all along the line are bound to be far reaching. As an example of this may be quoted the fact that railroad officials are already contemplating putting many of the men laid off recently back at work.

Although chiefly concerned with the sudden brightening of the building horizon the Chicago architect finds time to be very much interested in the fourteenth annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate Boards which opened here Monday, July 11. This, it is estimated, will bring more than 10,000 builders to the city and will be one of Chicago's greatest conventions.

Mayor William Hale Thompson opened the convention of United States realtors at the Auditorium Theatre. The convention program included among other things a smoker for delegates in the dining hall of the Auditorium Hotel, an entertainment for visiting women in the Gold Room of the Congress and a trip by special train to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Mayor Thompson issued a proclamation calling upon citizens to decorate their places of business and the Chicago Real Estate Board asked Chicago business men to assist in the reception of the distinguished guests. The list of noted speakers, who delivered addresses before the convention is a lengthy one and included such names as Senator William A. Calder, John S. Hord, tax expert; Melvin T. Taylor, president, First Trust & Savings Bank, and John J. Emery, National Commander American Legion.

UNDER the stimulus given building by the at least partial settlement of labor difficulties, several large projects have been gotten under way within the last ten days. One of the largest of these is a club house for the North Shore Motor Club to be erected between Sheridan road and the lake in Rogers Park.

Ground has been broken during the week for the Lutheran Memorial Hospital, a $360,000 structure of brick and reinforced concrete. The building will be six stories high on 110x142 feet.

Architect J. M. Marzek designed the North Shore club house. Worthman & Steinbach are architects for the hospital.

One of the most encouraging developments of the week is found in the greatly increased number of building permits issued for the week of July 7. These stack up against last year of the same period, 123 to 26. Permits amounting to 234 were issued for places to live, 77 being for individual houses against the normal number of 291 for the week.

BUILDING CONDITIONS on the PACIFIC COAST

(*Special Correspondence to* THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT)

SEATTLE.—Architects, jobbers of building materials and contractors of the Pacific Coast have no reason to complain of conditions in comparison with the East, even though the volume selling is light and the "shoestring" tendency in buying still prevails. Heads of coast jobbing houses now traveling in the East, conversing with fellows of their craft advise that the scene of the nation's commercial activity has shifted from the East to the coast and that actual conditions will bear this out.

Steel prices have fallen on the warehouse basis coast cities, but the market is not yet at bottom, jobbers believe. It is the opinion of the wholesale trade that camouflage is still being used to obscure the real issue, that the mills know it, but are reluctant to give way until forced to do so. Obviously things cannot go on in this way and a brisk inquiry be developed, and it is represented by coast operators that the sooner the mills hit the basic the better it will be for what building is expected for the balance of the current year. It is a genuine conviction that, while this is not the opportune time to go into any extensive building placements, considerable late summer work could be commenced and continued far into the mild winters that prevail in all coast states.

While sheets have fallen, pipe has held firm. A brisk demand for halves and three-quarters has developed without seeming reason and jobbers suddenly find themselves short. It has been necessary for the jobbing trade to fraternize in patching out and in making 100 feet do the work of 200.

The cement market is nominal and production 30 to 50 per cent. of normal in all coast plants. Jobbers in building materials deplore the road-building program in the coast this state, pointing out that had this been deferred in recognition of its inopportune time cement would have declined heavily. It is in road building that cement manufacturers are receiving their greatest revenue. Books and records of jobbing houses show that month to month sales ton basis since Jan. 1 are running 30 to 50 per cent. of

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the corresponding months of 1920 while decreasing on the approach to the building season. Notwithstanding this, jobbers in sheets, pipe and nails are able to report as large a volume of sales for June as on any similar month during the five-year period before the war.

The country trade is running close to actual needs, although jobbers are urging that business should not be lost because of scanty stocks and over caution. Wheat will be about a dollar a bushel to the farmer. He will discharge debts and cancel paper at the banks, leaving him in a position to borrow more. This will aid the retailer but will not leave any great amount for new construction in the country. It believed that another harvest must come and go before the country is in normal position.

In lime and brick, it is manifestly a buyers' market.

Fir lumber mills are in the midst of their July shut down, an annual occurrence. The mills announce that they will not reopen until the market improves, but wholesalers who have heard this statement before following a lean season smile broadly and predict that before August 1 production will be back to 70 per cent. of normal.

The fir lumber market has held firm. No 2 and better vertical grain flooring 1x4 sold at the mills at $49, slash grain at $20 to $21, finish at $46 to $50, ceiling at $20, drop siding at $21, boards and shiplap at $11.50 and common dimension at $10.50. Wholesalers are keeping cleaned up on orders, refusing to sell short. The movement of firm lumber to the Atlantic seaboard by water is about 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 feet weekly. Orders in the eastern rail or building trade are running 1,100 carloads a week. The newly organized Lumber Terminal Corporation, which lighters, stores and insures lumber for the Atlantic seaboard without charge to the shipper but takes its revenues from the steamships on their saving in shifting from port to port in getting cargo is now a proven success and has stimulated enquiry from the Atlantic.

Architect W. R. B. Willcox, F. A. I. A., of Seattle, has been appointed to make the competitive award of the Peace or Liberty Memorial for Kansas City. He represented the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho on the national board of the American Institute of Architects.

The first porcelain manufacturing west of St. Louis may be begun here as a result of efforts of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce in communicating with A. F. S. Steele, former official of the Washington Water Power Company of Spokane, who points out the advantageous export position of this city.

Architects Mendel & James, of this city, report a large amount of country work, and predict an early resumption of construction.

To Save the Trees Along Our Highways

THERE has been received from Mr. Willis Polk, architect, of San Francisco, the following communication:

"If public sentiment can be crystallized to the end that further cutting of trees along the highway will be retarded or stopped, a good work will be done. If not, the logical thing to do would be to seek a solution of the problem or a remedy for the evil.

"There is no excuse for cutting these trees, except the ordinary one, founded on thoughtlessness, ignorance, cupidity or stupidity. But to call such action upon the part of private property owners a crime, though it is their right, is not fair. Call it a mistake, if you please, and let it go at that.

"If existing conditions compel the sacrifice of these trees, maybe there is no remedy—maybe these trees must fall in the march of progress—I do not think so, as witness the few charming examples that already exist where the trees have not been sacrificed. However, let us look at the darkest side of the problem and ask ourselves seriously what is the best thing to do. What could be the remedy? If existing conditions are detrimental to trees along the highway, why not adopt a policy for the future?

"The State and the Nation propose vast highway construction projects—would it not be wise that restrictions be fixed that buildings should not be constructed closer than 75 feet thereto? Such a restriction would preserve trees where they exist and encourage the planting of trees where none exist.

"The restricted residence district has in nearly all cities proved successful—if private real estate promoters can profit by restrictions, why should not the State and the Nation profit in like manner?"

Department of Specifications

(Continued from page 52)

called quasi-familiarity as it is well understood that one who prepares drawings—or for that matter specifications—is not quite as competent to check them as one who has not had the opportunity to become so familiar with them that he can visualize them to the last detail when away from the office. It is not the obvious things that require checking nearly as much as the hidden matters that only can be revealed when one is attempting to understand them after being fairly complete.

This is the attitude of the contractor's estimator and if the specification writer can, to some extent, approach the drawings in a similar frame of mind he will find that his specifications will be given a better co-operative relation to the drawings than otherwise. And if this can be brought about there is no reason, except one of gross carelessness or neglect, why the proper spirit of co-operation between the contract documents cannot be had, thus bringing the construction work to a successful accomplishment.

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The AMERICAN SPECIFICATION INSTITUTE

IT is extremely gratifying to the Board of Governors to announce that the widespread interest in The American Specification Institute continues with unabated force. There is every indication that the membership will be more than doubled during the next month. All parts of the United States and several Canadian cities are represented in the more recent evidences of a desire to join the Specification Institute.

The American Specification Institute has been organized to promote the unified study by specification writers of the intricate work involved in the preparation of specifications and of all conditions affecting the work in this department of architects' offices. As the membership increases the benefit to be derived from membership in the Specification Institute may be said to increase in far greater proportion. In the past there have been many serious efforts made to improve specifications and there have been other indications that the architectural and engineering professions realize that earnest efforts must be made to perfect this important branch of professional work.

The members are, therefore, urged to bring to the attention of their friends and acquaintances the benefits to be derived from membership in The American Specification Institute, to the end that co-operation may be had from the majority of the architects in North America.

THE Board of Governors wish to begin a study of one particular phase of specifications that already has been the subject of several inquiries from members. This phase is the method followed to specify articles by quality rather than by manufactures' or trade names and how the usual "grandfather" clauses such as "and all other work shown on the drawings" have been eliminated or reworded so that a fair and just attitude as between the architect or engineer and contractor has been expressed. Quite often it has been found, during the stress of construction work, that clauses have been carelessly worded, utterly defeating their purposes. When such difficulty occurs it is only natural that subsequent specifications are corrected and these corrections usually prove effective. Those members who have had similar experiences and have been able to word clauses so that the conditions have been met successfully are asked to send to the Executive Secretary's office such clauses and, in addition, a brief statement of the source of the original difficulty.

ALTHOUGH the semi-monthly bulletins will, for some time, be devoted to the specification outlines, it is desirable that members send to the Executive Secretary's office information of any kind that will be of interest and benefit to members. If members have real interesting articles or books on the history of materials or their production, fabrication and finishing, sufficient information should be sent to enable the procuring of the article or book in question. In any event, members should understand that any data is welcome, even though its value may seem trivial to its possessor.

SEVERAL very interesting suggestions have been received from members with respect to Bulletin No. 1, General Outline for Specifications. They show that a great deal of very careful thought has been given this subject and it will be possible, very shortly, to distribute to the members a resume of these criticisms and suggestions. Those who have not reported their views with respect to this bulletin are asked to do so as soon as possible in order that the periodic continuity of the reissues may be followed without delays.

The American Specification Institute,
127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.,
Gardner C. Coughlen, Acting Executive Secretary.

CURRENT NEWS

Happenings and Comments in the Field of Architecture and the Allied Arts

Mark Twain Home to Stand Intact

THE Mark Twain home in Hartford, Conn., will not be demoilished to make way for a new building, the directors of the Kingswood School, which now occupies the homestead, having voted to renew their lease on the place.

To Establish American Shrine for Poets

ACCORDING to press announcements, plans are under way to establish an American shrine for poets in New York, to be known as the "House of Poets." The institution will follow somewhat the lines of the Palace of Song in London, in which the poet laureate lives, and will be the home of the American dean of poets. The house, to be erected at an approximate cost of $100,000, will combine the functions of club and clearing house for all American poets.

Housing Shortage

AN interesting discussion on housing conditions, as affected by the war, in the United States, Great Britain, France and Canada, is found in the report of the Select Committee on Reconstruction and Production, United States Senate. It is issued in pamphlet form by the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C.

South Chicago to Establish "Friendship Center"

AFTER years of consistent effort, South Chicago has evolved a plan whereby all of its welfare activities will be concentrated. This plan takes the form of erecting a group of buildings to shelter and concentrate this work and its workers. "Friendship Center" is to be the name of this enterprise, which will represent an expenditure of $350,000.

The Art Centre

THE designs for the Art Centre in New York prepared by J. Munro Hewlett, president of the Architectural League of New York, have finally been perfected and approved and the actual work of construction is begun. The first groups of works of art by the best industrial designers in the United States will be shown at the Art Centre in the month of October. The new building will then be formally dedicated to the service of art, as applied to the everyday affairs of the people.

Spite Fences

BILLS designed to prevent the erection of "spite fences" were recently introduced in the New York State Legislature by Assemblyman Edward R. Rayher of New York and Senator Fred B. Pitcher of Jefferson. The bills are intended to declare that such structures are a private nuisance and may be enjoined. Provision is made that the proposed law does not create an easement in light and air and that it will not prevent the erection of buildings.

Pennsylvania State Legislature Approves Plan for Sesqui-Centennial

OFFICIAL recognition and endorsement have been given by the Pennsylvania State Legislature to the plan proposing a Sesqui-Centennial exposition to be held in Philadelphia in 1926. This is the first step on the part of Pennsylvania to arouse what it is hoped will be a nation-wide interest in an exhibition that is intended to eclipse all future industrial expositions.

Tax Exemption in New York Stimulates Building

BUILDING records in the five boroughs of Greater New York show a marked increase in the building of apartment houses. It is claimed that this increase is more than 450 per cent. since the tax exemption ordinance took effect. The average cost of the new apartments is given as $4,689, and they are all designed to fall within the $5,000 limit of the tax exemption ordinance.

Plan to Construct a Model French City

MAJOR J. A. M. de SANCHEZ, chief of the economic division of the French High Commission, stated at the conference on reconstruction in France, held in the Engineers' Club of Boston, that the City of Pinon, a little town about ninety miles from Paris, had been selected to combine all the artistic features that make French villages beautiful and all the sanitary improvements that make American cities healthful. It is believed that the work done in Pinon will influence all of that done in the rest of France for generations to come, and, while retaining as far as possible the picturesque atmosphere of the French village of the past, will add those modern features that are conducive to the comfort of home living and the prosperity of communities.

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A Substitute for Cork

A CHEMICAL works at Bruenn-Koenigsfeld has been carrying on experiments with a view to finding a substitute for cork, says a Prague correspondent in the Times Trade Supplement, and these have now led to tangible results. Turf treated by a special patented process furnishes a material for insulation and building purposes that is said to be, in most respects, not inferior, and in some superior, to cork. The product is reported to be equally light, firm, and sound proof, to possess great insulating properties, and to be damp proof.

An Appropriate Memorial

IT is seldom that a memorial to a distinguished man so perfectly perpetuates his life work as the Gorgas Memorial Institute to be established at Panama will honor the memory of the late Surgeon-General Gorgas. According to announcement by the American members of the institute, which is, fittingly, international as was the work of its subject, the institution is to be concerned chiefly with tropical medicine.

The memorial institute, which is to have the cooperation of medical institutions in all the leading nations, will further the research in tropical sanitation and medicine which so largely occupied the career of the famous American scientist.

Chinese to Tax Houses on Height of Structure

NEW taxes are planned by the Chinese Government through the levying of a house tax, to be experimented upon first in Pekin in the provincial provinces and in the trading ports, after which, if successful, it will be extended elsewhere.

The process of this tax will be a monthly collection upon each chien or apartment as a unit, the houses to be placed in three classes, according to height. For the first class there will be a monthly tax of twenty cents, for the second, fifteen, and for the third, ten. Foreign buildings to be taxed in accordance with the area covered and the number of stories.

Bronze Gate to Be Added to "Trench of Bayonets"

AN impressive bronze gate will soon be added to the Rand memorial monument over the famous "Trench of Bayonets" at Verdun. The gate has been designed by Andre Ventre, a Paris architect. Like the memorial itself, the gate is the gift of the late George F. Rand, of Buffalo, N. Y.

This gate will be erected at the entrance of the historic trench about fifty feet from the memorial which covers the bodies of the French soldiers who were killed in the trench, leaving their bayonets exposed above the ground. The gate is of thick bronze, about twelve by eight feet.

Architectural Year Book, University of Illinois

THE Architectural Year Book of the University of Illinois for 1921, published by the Architectural Society, has been received. It has been dedicated this year to Professor Rexford Newcomb in recognition of his loyal devotion to the best interests of the Department of Architecture. The work presents a series of selected drawings, representing the various college years, and is a dignified record of a well-conducted university course in architecture. The results, as shown, are eminently satisfactory, and reflect credit not only on the student body, but on the faculty that so competently directs its efforts.

John Nolen on Common Sense in City Planning

THE Thirteenth National Conference on City Planning was closed by John Nolen with some common sense remarks on the subject. He stated that it was wrong to leave promotion to but one class in the community; to overdo promotion and to expect inadequate promotion to accomplish much good. He recommended a responsible official planning commission having adequate powers; provision for sound legal advice; a solid financial policy sufficiently broad; unremitting education in schools and public meetings; appropriate and timely publicity; a follow up organization keeping persistently at work; an adequate, competent staff and a competent consultant.

Architectural League of Indianapolis Consolidates with the Indiana Artists' Club

WE are advised that the Architectural League of Indianapolis has, by a vote of its members, decided to transfer its strength and efforts to the Indiana Artists' Club, thereby consolidating two organizations having similar aims and ideals.

Restoration at the British Museum

THE present policy of the British Museum where the authorities are seeking to "restore" old Greek sculptures, is roundly censured in the press of London. A correspondent to THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT, commenting, states: "No doubt the museum authorities do not like the Greek marbles in their possession, but why they should translate the masterpieces into something more nearly approaching the Albert Moore ideal of Greek passes my understanding. The Demeter is not only 'improved' with a new plaster nose, but to bring the rest of the head into consistency with this nose, the whole face has been scraped and cleaned, thus destroying the mellow golden patina of centuries. Other important pieces 'improved' are the marble boy extracting a thorn from his foot, and the very fine priestess from Cnidus, so altered as to give an

entirely different effect from that it originally had. How long are these vandals to have in their 'care' the golden treasury of sculpture, which at least they might leave untouched?"

A National Housing Division Planned

A DIVISION of Housing as proposed in a bill which it is stated, has the approval of President Harding and is sponsored by Secretary of Commerce Hoover, has been introduced concurrently by Senator Calder of New York and Congressman Tinkham of Massachusetts. It proposes to put the new division and the Bureau of Standards under the administration of the Secretary of Commerce. The purpose of this housing division is to gather the best information on the housing question and disseminate such parts of it as may be helpful to those engaged in the building industry.

Rockefeller Fund to Build Hospital for Belgians

TO centralize, extend and modernize the operations of the faculty of medicine of Brussels University, the trustees of the Rockefeller Fund are contributing a sum of forty million francs. The understanding is that the local authorities shall also do their part in the way of financial help and service toward the realization of this gigantic scheme.

One of the two main existing hospital buildings of the capital and a nearby barracks are to be acquired for the use of the faculty, and here will be centralized operating theatres, classrooms, nurses' quarters, clinics, surgeries, laboratories, students' cantines and various other offices and departments of the medical school.

Course of City Planning and Civic Art at Columbia

REALIZING that city planning is so broad in its scope and the term is so inclusive as to designate it a superprofession, it has been decided at Columbia University to establish a comprehensive course on City Planning and Civic Art.

The lectures will cover the history and development of types of cities in relation to the general development of civilization.

Field work, an important part of the course, will consist of trips of inspection to various types of city development.

Drafting room work will consist of the development of sketches illustrative of principles learned in the class room and from field notes. The course begins October 5, 1921, in the Winter session, and February 8, 1922, in the Spring session.

Brooklyn Chapter A. I. A. Elects Officers

THE following ticket was elected at the annual meeting of the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects: President, John B. Slee; vice-president, Arthur R. Koch; treasurer, William J. Dilthey; secretary, Thomas E. Snook, Jr.

The Rights of Artists

THE Belgian Chamber has just passed a law which will be welcomed by all artists. It provides that they, or their heirs, shall receive a percentage of the proceeds when their works are sold by public auction. The percentage, it is true, is not very high—it ranges from two per cent. in the case of pictures that are sold for £200 or less to six per cent. where the picture fetches over £1,000—but it is sufficient to give an artist a definite pecuniary interest in the public's recognition of his work and in his posthumous reputation. As a rule, a painter's talent develops slowly and his vogue still more slowly. Many of the world's greatest artists have had a hard struggle to keep body and soul together, even when they have reached the height of their powers. Pictures that are worth thousands of pounds to-day have been sold to pay the rent of a garret.

This measure, which is based on very reasonable lines, appears to us a clever method of meeting a great hardship, as it effects its purpose without any real interference with the rights of the owner of the picture in question. In this it is far fairer than the Italian law, which prohibits the exportation of works of art, and so in many cases absolutely penalizes those who have need of the proceeds which the sale of a picture would represent.

Rheims Cathedral

THE fate of Rheims Cathedral has not yet been decided, the commission instituted by the law of April 17, 1918, to pronounce on the future of the public buildings damaged during the war not having up to the present come to any decision with regard to Rheims. The commission will have to decide between two alternatives—the complete restoration of the cathedral as it was before the war, insofar as this is humanly possible, and the leaving of the charred and mutilated building just as it stands, as a memorial of the ruthlessness of the enemy. Both solutions have their partisans. Those who demand the restoration estimate that a sum of 125,000,000 francs (nominally £5,000,000) will be required. Among the many difficulties of restoration, that of the glazing is the greatest, but a master glassworker claims to have re-discovered the qualities of ancient glass, including the luminosity. It is known that this luminosity results from the fact that the two surfaces of the glass are not parallel, the convex and concave surfaces receiving the light in prismatic angles, an effect which in modern glass is to a certain extent recaptured by painting.

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PERSONALS

Announcement is made that the new address of Marsh & Peter, architects, is now 1304 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., instead of 522 Thirteenth Street.

The office of Walter Thomas Williams, architect, have been removed from 151 Fifth Avenue to 41 East Forty-second Street, New York City.

It is announced that Norman Krecke and Arthur A. H. Janke have opened offices for the practice of architecture and engineering at 107 Buhl Building, 129 Congress Street, West, Detroit, Mich.

S. Wesley Haynes and Harold E. Mason, architects, announce the formation of a partnership for the practice of architecture, under the firm name of Haynes & Mason, with offices at the Park Building, Fitchburg, Mass. They are desirous of receiving manufacturers' catalogs and samples.

Francis W. Cooper, F. A. I. A., and L. A. Desjardins have formed a partnership to continue the practice of architecture at the offices established by the former, 108 Pope Block. Pueblo, Col. Both are Cornell graduates. Mr. Cooper, class of 1874, is the oldest living graduate of that college of architecture still practicing, besides being longest in practice in this state. Mr. Desjardins located at 212 Security Building, Galveston, Tex., since 1911, is a holder of Colorado License No. 1, granted upon passing highest in the first examination to licensed architects in this state.

Bell & Curtis, architects, Vernon, B. C., are desirous of receiving American samples and catalogs.

George B. Olmsted Company has opened a new office at 315 Seventh Avenue, North, St. Petersburg, Fla., and requests samples, catalogs, etc., for its files. The firm is composed of George Ball Olmsted, John Olmsted and Frederick Law Olmsted, and their practice will include architecture and landscape architecture.

Oscar V. Vatet, architect, announces the removal of his offices to 15 East Fortieth Street, New York City.

The offices of Richard Henry Dana, Jr., architect, are now located at 350 Madison Avenue, New York City.

The Board of Education of Columbus, Ohio, has opened new offices at 50 East Town street, to be under the supervision of Howard Dwight Smith.

George C. Harding, of the firm of Harding & Seaver, architects, Berkshire Life Insurance Building, Pittsfield, Mass., it is announced, died on April 23. Henry M. Seaver, the remaining partner, will continue the practice of architecture under the name of Harding & Seaver.

Mauran Russell & Crowell announce that they have admitted to membership William F. Wischmeyer and W. Oscar Mullgardt.

Netcott, Donnan and Netcott, architects, have succeeded the firm of Netcott and Netcott. J. N. Donnan has entered the firm and the offices will remain at 515 Black Bldg., Waterloo, Ia.

Walker & Eisen, architects, have moved their offices from the Hibernian Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal., to the Pacific Finance Bldg., that city.

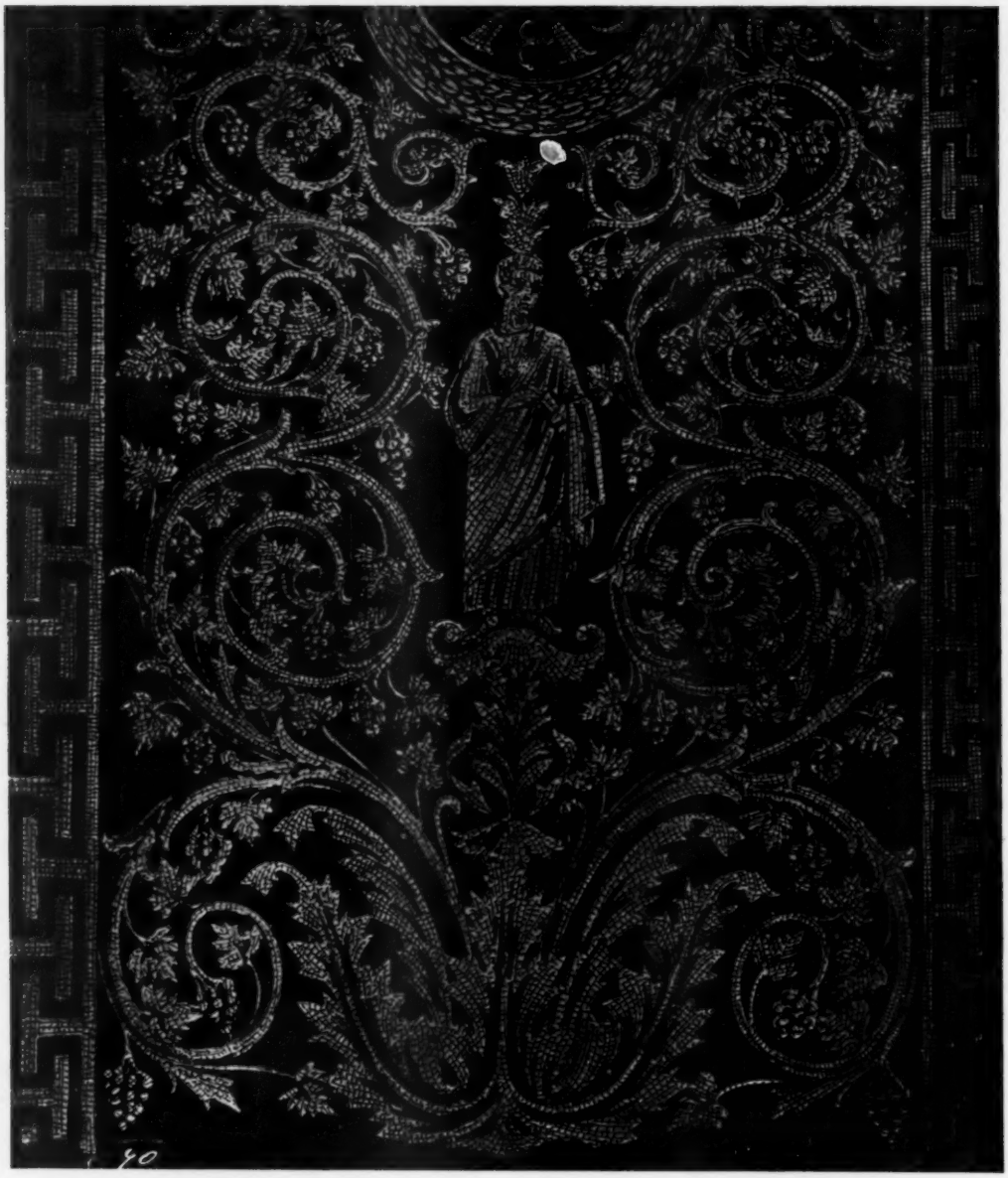
Chester Oakley announces that he has dissolved the firm of Lansing & Oakley, and will practice architecture with Albert J. Schallmo, under the title of Oakley & Schallmo, architects, with offices at 70 West Chippewa Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Clinton & Russell, architects, have moved their offices to the sixth floor in 100 Maiden Lane, having for many years been located at 32 Nassau Street, New York City.

A new Chicago firm of architects is that of Minchin, Spitz & Company, architects and engineers, with offices at 19 West Jackson Boulevard. Alexander H. Spitz was formerly located at 105 West Monroe Street, and H. Minchin has up until this time been associated with Minchin & Weller, Inc. Paul L. Francesco is the third member of the new firm.

After having spent three years in the United States service and four months in England and on the Continent, A. K. Mosley, architect, has resumed the practice of architecture at 1887 Frances Avenue, Troy, N. Y., and will be pleased to receive recent catalogs issued by manufacturers.

Word was recently received from Paris of the death of Charles Edwards, a well known architect of Paterson, N. J. He had been ill for about a year, and went to France four months ago, seeking to recover his health. Mr. Edwards is the designer of the Paterson Savings Institution Building, the United States Trust Company Building, the Second National Bank Building, St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, all in Paterson. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Margaret Edwards.



MOSAIC DETAIL IN THE CHOIR OF THE CHURCH OF S. VITALE, RAVENNA, ITALY